The Post

Sunday Special

NO. 604. [REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER.] SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 1917. PRICE ONE PENNY.

BRITISH STORM ANCRE VILLAGE

CAPTURE OF IRLES AND ADVANCE ON THREE MILES FRONT.

HAUL OF PRISONERS AND BOOTY IN NEW ATTACK ON ANCRE.

GENERAL MAUDE ENGAGES ENEMY ON FORTIFIED RIVER LINE NEAR BAGDAD.

The British attacked and captured on Saturday the village and defences of Irles, a strong position outflanking Loupart Wood on the Ancre. A considerable number of prisoners, four trench mortars, and fifteen machine guns were captured.

A British aerial patrol was heavily engaged by strong enemy formations—this being the new tactics employed by the Germans in a bid for aerial supremacy. Four of our machines are reported missing.

General Maude reports that our troops have been engaged with the Turks, who are holding the line of the Dialah River (ten miles from Bagdad) in some strength.

A Russian column in pursuit of the Turks in West Persia has captured the town of Senna, an important junction of roads, one of which leads to Kermanshah, in North-West Persia.

A curious position has developed in Holland in connection with the British steamer Princess Melita. The vessel has been warned, on the ground that it was an armed merchantman, to clear from Dutch water in order to avoid being interned, but the vessel had to put back to a Dutch port for lack of water.

BRITISH CAPTURE IRLES AND ADVANCE ON WIDE FRONT.

London, Saturday Night.

The following report was received here to-night, dated British General Headquarters, Saturday, 9.15 p.m.:—

To-day we attacked and captured the village of Irles and neighbouring defences.

The advance made extends over a front of three miles.

We have taken a considerable number of prisoners, of which over one hundred have already reached the collecting stations.

Four trench mortars and fifteen machine guns were also captured.

In this operation our casualties were slight.

[Irles, the capture of which is reported by General Haig, is a strong position on high ground on the Ancre, north-east of Miraumont. From here the British will be enabled to take in flank Loupart Wood, where the Germans have been putting up a stubborn defence.]

GERMANS 'JUMPY' IN WEST.

WHOLESALE DEVASTATION IN LINE OF RETREAT.

London, Saturday Night.

The Press Association's special correspondent telegraphs from the British War Correspondents' Headquarters, France, as follows:—

The Germans are growing increasingly disturbed opposite practically the whole length of our line. On either side of the point of the retirement the enemy apparently knows little or nothing about it, so that his jumpiness can have no reference to this movement and its presumptive meaning.

Every night he makes a wonderful display of fireworks, and at many points behind the line continually plays searchlights. These latter suggest that he still retains a lively recollection of the feats of our tanks during the autumn battles.

The German Raider.

During the past week, too, the Germans have attempted an abnormal number of raids indicating their anxiety. The proportion of cases in which the raiders have succeeded in reaching our trenches at all has been so small as to form a striking contrast between British and German methods and morale. Raiding does not suit the German soldiers. The temperament in this demands a large degree of personal initiative, and this is just the quality which is killed in the Boche soldier by his mode of training.

Something Imminent in the West.

The Germans are certainly expecting something imminent in the West, but it is pretty clear that they cannot localise their apprehensions. They are wasting a good deal of ammunition in spasmodic outbursts of gunning against what they presumably regard as suspicious areas.

The withdrawal has progressed but slowly during the past week, which may quite legitimately be ascribed to the wild winter weather. But, of course, this presupposes that the general theory as to the intentions of the Germans is correct. They may yet elect to make a stand on the line they now hold. However, as I have said elsewhere, speculation upon this point is not expedient.

Wholesale Devastation

One thing seems pretty clear, and this is that the Germans have carried out a most ruthless policy of destruction as they have either fallen back or been driven back. If they lay waste the wealthy mineral fields of the Lille region and of Belgium, such ruination they may calculate will give them time to recover their commercial position before competition can again arise in these once-prosperous lands.

DUTCH AND ARMED MERCHANTMEN.

POSITION OF A BRITISH VESSEL.

Rotterdam, Saturday.

According to the evening papers the British armed merchantman Princess Melita arrived this morning at the Hook of Holland on her way to Rotterdam.

When the Dutch naval authorities discovered that the ship was armed two torpedo boats came alongside, and ordered the captain to move out of Dutch waters if he wished to avoid having his vessel interned.

The Melita accordingly steamed out, but had to return shortly afterwards for lack of water. She is still at the mouth of the Meuse.—Exchange.

HOLLAND'S CRUEL POSITION.

The Case of the Princess Melita.

Paris, Saturday.

M. Herbette, commenting in Echo de Paris on the refusal of the Dutch authorities to allow the British steamer Princess Melita to remain in Dutch port, says this prohibition is not new. We know how cruel the position of Holland is, but if we wish to spare her dangerous discussions we should warn her and also guard ourselves against dangerous illusions. It must not be imagined that prudent proceedings will ward off the German peril from the Netherlands. German designs against Holland were decided a long while ago.

With all the passion which she puts into her hatred of Great Britain, Germany desires to possess the coast of the North Sea facing the English shore. She will never submit so long as she has not been utterly beaten that there should exist at the mouth of the Rhine and the Meuse a free nation, whose independence it should be to Great Britain's interest to defend.

POISON PRESENTS FROM THE SKY.

ENEMY AVIATORS DROP SWEETS IN BRITISH LINES

Paris, Saturday.

According to the Petit Journal's correspondent at Amiens the Prefecture of the Somme has communicated the following warning to the people of Amiens:—

Be careful of sweets which the Germans drop from their aeroplanes into the British lines. The Austrians last year were noted for the same liberality in their theatre of war, and bacteriological examinations have shown that these presents from the sky contain virulent cultures of cholera plague, dysentery, &c.

The civil population in the zones frequently visited by German aeroplanes will do well to be on their guard against any attractive-looking objects which may be found on the ground after enemy raids. It is very desirable that all such confectionery be taken directly to the police or to the bacteriological laboratory, where they will be submitted to examination. Parents shall particularly warn young children not to pick up any sweet from the ground.

This precaution is all the more necessary because the Germans, to allay suspicion, first of all throw down sweets which are in every way delicious.

ARMED ORGANISATIONS ON NEUTRAL ZONE.

Allies' Ministers Confer With Greek Premier.

Athens, Saturday.

The situation is more hopeful from the point of view of relieving the sufferings of the people, but there is no immediate prospect of the raising of the blockade. A sufficient quantity of wheat will be allowed to be landed on arrival.

Representatives of the Entente Powers are also reported to have suggested that their Governments should allow the importation into Greece of rice and dried vegetables.

The arrivals of sugar and coal will be stored in Salanies until the blockade is raised. Meanwhile coal is most scarce.

Sir F. Elliot and M. Guillemin, the British and French Ministers respectively, had a long interview with M. Lambros, the Greek Premier, this afternoon. The Ministers again explained to the Premier the reasons for the maintenance of the blockade. The question of armed organisations in the neutral zone also formed the subject of a prolonged discussion. Count Bosdari, the Italian Minister, also conferred with M. Lambros.

THE MARCH ON BAGDAD.

OUR TROOPS ENGAGE ENEMY AT DIALAH.

TURKS HOLDING NEW LINE IN STRENGTH.

Press Bureau, Saturday Night.

The General Officer Commanding the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force telegraphed on the evening of 7th March that our gunboats and cavalry discovered the enemy to be holding the line of the Dialah River.

On the 8th March our troops were engaged with the enemy, who hold the above line in some strength.

The position evacuated without resistance by the enemy at Ctesiphon on the 6th March had been most carefully prepared, and it is clear that he intended to hold it. The evacuation was probably due to the rapidity of our advance from Azizie.

[A formidable system of defences were constructed by the Turks for the action of seventeen months ago, when General Townshend advanced to Ctesiphon. The line of the River Dialah further west and ten miles from Bagdad was not as strongly fortified in 1915 as it doubtless is now, the defences at that time being chiefly confined to the approaches of two bridges which spanned the stream.]

THE FATE OF BAGDAD.

London, Saturday Night.

An unofficial report was published here to-day to the effect that the British had captured Bagdad, and that official confirmation would be forthcoming at any moment.

The premature announcement that the British were in Bagdad has led to the impression that news of the expedition is being officially withheld. The Government fully appreciate, writes a correspondent, the importance of publishing the earliest possible intelligence concerning a matter in which so much is involved, and that news of the occupation of Bagdad has not been given out is simply because there is no news to give.

The Turks are known to have strongly prepared positions on the Dialah watercourse. The only question is whether their morale has been so broken that they will be compelled to give up Bagdad without a serious fight.

RUSSIAN PURSUIT OF TURKS.

TOWN OF SENNA CAPTURED.

London, Saturday Night.

The official report received to-night from Petrograd says:—

In the Bidjar direction our troops gained possession of the Turkish position in the vicinity of Senna, also the town of Senna.

This shows that the Turkish withdrawal in Western Persia is not confined to the routes leading to Bagdad, but extends farther north.

Nearly all the Turkish troops in Persia are now moving towards their own border, pursued by the Russians. The strength of the forces, however, is not great, and the distances between the operating columns are enormous.

Senna, the capture of which is reported to-night, is the junction of several roads on the banks north-west of Hamadan. One of these roads leads to Kermanshah, which town is now menaced by the Russian advance from Hamadan.

TURKS' TRENCHES RAIDED IN CAUCASUS.

Petrograd, Saturday Night.

The following official report was issued here to-night:—

Caucasian Front.

West of Gumich-Khany our reconnoitring detachments attacked the Turks. Having demolished their works and taken some machine guns our scouts returned, bringing as prisoners four officers and forty-nine Askaris.

TWO PROPHECIES.

London, Saturday Night.

The following reference is published here to-night:—

It may be that the wish is father to the thought, but in the light of certain signs and portents and some private information I venture upon two forecasts:—

(1) In a short time the United States will be at war with Germany; (2) Bulgaria will soon be suing for a separate peace.

GREAT AIR FIGHTS.

GERMANS' NEW TACTICS.

FOUR BRITISH MACHINES MISSING.

London, Saturday Night.

The following reference to aerial fighting is continued in the report received to-night from British General Headquarters:—

Yesterday an aerial patrol of our machines was heavily engaged by strong hostile formations.

During the day four of our aeroplanes failed to return.

One of the enemy's machines is known to have been brought down.

In the French communique issued to-night it is reported that a German aeroplane was brought down by the fire of our special guns in the region of St Mihiel.

The German official report issued to-day says:—

Our airmen shot down six enemy aeroplanes and two captive balloons. As the result of our anti-aircraft fire one enemy machine crashed to the earth. Lieut. Baron von Richthofen, in an aerial engagement, brought down his twenty-fifth hostile machine.

It is understood that a full statement will be made in the House of Commons next week on the aerial position at the front.

The Germans have adopted new tactics, launching massed attacks on our flyers, who, heavily outnumbered, have in some cases suffered heavy casualties.

The newest German machine is undoubtedly a great advance on the Fokker, and has points which make it an extremely formidable weapon. The latest British model is likely to prove an effective counter, says an authority.

The acute state of the fight for aerial supremacy on the West front is shown by the fact that fifty-six aeroplanes, German and Allied, have been brought or driven down in two days this week. The record of these two days is without a parallel since, at any rate, the battle of the Somme began on July 1, 1916. Eighteen machines—eleven German and seven British—came involuntarily to earth on July 2, and on February 15 last twenty-one machines—fourteen German and seven Allied—experienced this fate, but on no two successive days in all these months has there been such a tale of losses as was disclosed this week.

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT ILL.

CONDITION GIVES RISE TO SOME ANXIETY.

London, Saturday Night.

The following bulletin was issued this evening through the Court Newsman:—

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught was taken ill with influenza and bronchitis on February 13. During convalescence the temperature again rose, and on February 26 measles developed. This has been accompanied by considerable broncho-pneumonia.

The condition of Her Royal Highness gives rise to some anxiety, but the strength is maintained.

JAMES K. FOWLER.
BERTRAND DAWSON.
EDWARD WORTHINGTON.

WILY AUSTRIANS.

A Bait to the Albanians.

London, Saturday.

The Press Bureau announces the Austro-Hungarian Government has addressed a proclamation to Albanians, promising them autonomy under the protectorate of Austro-Hungary. Influential Albanians issued a protest, pointing out that Albania is independent. The Austrian aim is obviously to justify a levy of men to be incorporated in its army.

A new lightship, which will be called the Dogger Bank South Lightship, has left Nieuwediep for its station.

SENTENCES IN POISON PLOT TRIAL.

PENAL SERVITUDE FOR THREE OF THE ACCUSED.

DRAMATIC SCENES IN CLOSING PHASE OF TRIAL.

(SPECIAL REPORT BY OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.)

London, Saturday Night.

The closing episodes of the poison plot at the Old Bailey were enlivened by thrilling scenes and tense dramatic situations. There has never been a case so absorbing, so packed with climax and anti-climax.

With the exception of Hetty Wheeldon, the prisoners were found guilty.

Mrs Wheeldon, the central figure in the case, was sentenced to penal servitude for ten years;

Alfred Mason received seven years; while

Winnie Mason, his wife, was sent to penal servitude for five years.

When the jury returned to Court after an absence of twenty-five minutes, a hushed and excited Court eagerly awaited the announcement of the foreman. The prisoners stood in front of the dock, their faces pale, and betraying traces of deep anxiety.

After giving the verdict, the foreman added that the jury wished to recommend the two Masons to mercy on account of their youth.

"Let Harriet Ann Wheeldon know that she is discharged," said Mr Justice Low, and with a furtive glance at the others Hetty Wheeldon stepped from the dock, while the Judge proceeded to pass sentence on her mother, her brother, and his wife.

Judge's Address to the Prisoners.

Addressing Mrs Wheeldon, Mr Justice Low went on severely to say that poisoning is one of the very gravest crimes that a human being can commit, and soliciting its commission is part of the almost next gravest crime. "The statute under which you have been indicted," he went on, "and under which you have been convicted, limits the punishment for this crime to a certain period of penal servitude. I can imagine no worse case than yours, and therefore I have no alternative with regard to you, and the sentence of this Court upon you is that you go to penal servitude for ten years."

"Thank you," replied Mrs Wheeldon quietly.

Addressing the male prisoner the Judge said:—"Alfrew George Mason, you have been convicted of lending your skill to this crime, and if it had not been for the recommendation of the jury I should have been compelled to pass the same sentence upon you. The sentence upon you is that you be kept in penal servitude for seven years.

"With regard to you, Winifred Mason," went on the Judge, "you also beyond question were part to this nefarious scheme. I take into consideration your bringing up, and I feel that your position is largely due to the bad, wicked influence of your mother. I feel bound by the view the jury have taken that some leniency ought to be shown to you. You have been guilty of a very grave offence. The sentence upon you is that you be kept in penal servitude for five years."

Searching Cross-Examination of Mason.

When the Court resumed to-day the cross-examination of Mason, who had given evidence on the preceding day, was commenced.

At the hands of the Attorney-General, swift and merciless in cross-examination, Mason, when he stood up to fight his duel, was soon stripped of his scientific veneer, and revealed as a poseur.

In reply to the Judge he had stated that he had studied poisons from the criminological standpoint, and to the first questions of Sir Frederick he had to give a negative reply. He had never heard of Palmer, of Rugely, nor of Neil Cream, the notorious ghoul of Stamford Street, who gave poisoned chocolates to his victims. He did not know that half a grain of strychnine had proved fatal to human life, and by his hesitancy and otherwise stood revealed as a young man of four-and-twenty who had dabbled in dangerous drugs without knowing a very great deal about them.

After this the cross-examination was masterly and to the point. The defence was that Mason intended to poison a dog, yet of the two thousand he had claimed to have despatched not one was by curare.

Sir Frederick Smith made a strong impression by bringing out that Mason had never heard of giving strychnine on bread to a dog, but later on Mr Riza for the defence scored over him by getting Dr Spilsbury, the expert for the prosecution, to admit that he could not give any instance of this poison being spread on bread and butter. Dr Spilsbury consulted his works of reference before he made the admission, and Mr Riza had the satisfaction of getting the pronouncement of the Judge that the weight of an expert's evidence was diminished if he could not support it by chapter and verse.

In his speech to the jury for the defence Mr Riza, hitherto comparatively unknown in causes celebres, added another chapter to the brilliant forensic duels to the death in the Old Bailey, and established himself in the front ranks of criminal pleaders.

The Speech for the Defence.

In an impassioned speech he mingled sarcasm with denunciation and criticism, powerfully pleading that the place for these silly people was in an internment camp, and that none could believe the cock-and-bull story, so absurd, unreliable, and untrue, that Mr Lloyd George was to be murdered with poisoned darts on Walton Heath golf links. In his opening remarks he dealt with the mysterious stranger who came to the Wheeldons at a time when their minds were formulating schemes to assist the conscientious objectors, and who suggested a contract. "This is a scandalous, a vile, a vindictive prosecution," he urged, "and is most dangerous not only to these people, but to the whole public."

In a tense atmosphere his voice rang out as he claimed it to be the first time in British history that a mysterious agent had been introduced in a prosecution.

"Who is this man Gordon?" he asked in dramatic tones, and after a telling pause he demanded, "How can this man be of such importance that he could not come into this Court of law and face me from this witness-box? Why could this man not come here? What possible kind of man is this Gordon that he could not be spared? I assure you" (he spoke feelingly) "that if he were here you would hear a different part of this story altogether."

Counsel Suggests Trial by Ordeal.

It is only in those parts of the world where secret agents are introduced that the most atrocious crimes are committed. The solicitor in this case has left no stone unturned to find Gordon, and has failed. These ladies are charged with a vile and heinous crime, and if, in the absence of Gordon, you still wish to try them, the proper course would be trial by ordeal.

His Lordship—Trial by what?

Mr Riza—Trial by ordeal, my Lord.

His Lordship—But trial by ordeal has been abolished. We cannot do it, and what is the use of submitting that suggestion to the jury?

Mr Riza—That is left to me, my Lord.

His Lordship—No; you cannot submit that to them.

Mr Riza—I submit that in this particular case it would be the safest method.

His Lordship—Do you suggest that these ladies should walk over hot ploughshares?

Mr Riza—I do, my Lord, in order to prove their innocence.

His Lordship—Then, they cannot do it. (Laughter.) If you have anything serious to suggest, put it.

Mr Riza submitted the prosecution had utterly failed to show how the alleged plot was to be carried into effect. The evidence for the Crown was inconsistent and inconclusive.

Sir Frederick Smith and Gordon.

In the course of his reply, Sir Frederick said allusion had been made to the absence of Gordon. There might be circumstances in which the Executive thought it was not in the public interest to call a particular witness. He took the decision with regard to Gordon and was responsible for it. If the jury were not satisfied they were perfectly entitled to say so by acquitting the prisoners.

The Attorney entered on an exhaustive examination of the evidence, and went through the whole of the correspondence once again.

He impressed upon the jury that these were critical days, and if he had satisfied the jury from his perusal of the documents in the case they would shrink from the duty of supporting the authorities and protecting the public men of the country. He did not hesitate to claim this at their hands.

On his Lordship's suggestion, there was then a short adjournment to enable the jury to get tea.

Judge and the Teacher Prisoners.

The Court reassembled at six o'clock, and the learned Judge at once began his summing up to the jury. His Lordship at first alluded to the accidental delay in the proceedings owing to the illness of one of their number, and said that in the circumstances public gratitude was due to them for the close attention the jury had given to the investigation for several successive days. It was a lamentable case. They had found language used in it which would have been foul indeed in the mouth of the lowest hooligans. Two of the prisoners were teachers of the young, and it made one doubt whether elementary education was the blessing which they had hoped it was. But they were not trying the prisoners for foul language, not for seditious intentions, nor for treachery, but for conspiracy to murder. The essence of conspiracy was combination.

Pointing to the law in the case of husband and wife he did not see in this case any evidence whatever that would justify the jury in coming to the conclusion that Mrs Mason acted under the control of her husband. They might find that Mason and his wife conspired with others, but they could not find that the two conspired together. A theory advanced by the defence appeared to be that conspiracy could only be brought home by direct and specific evidence. But conspiracy, on the contrary, must as a rule be an inference drawn by the Judges and jury.

Judge and the Secret Agent.

Of all forms of murder poisoning was the most dastardly, the most dangerous, and the most criminal. It did not matter whether the victim were the Prime Minister or the humblest subject of the King. So far as the prosecution was concerned this case depended very much upon secret agents. Unless secret agents were employed it would be impossible to detect crimes of the class alleged here. It was one of the necessities of Government, and one of the necessities of the times in which we live that secret agents should be employed.

The Crown had not called Gordon, and Mr Riza was quite entitled to comment upon it. If the jury thought Gordon's absence made the case for the Crown unreliable, they would acquit the prisoners, but if they were satisfied with the case for the Crown, they might convict the accused whether Gordon were called or not.

The jury would have to say whether they could rely upon Booth, if not, the case to a large extent would fail.

The Despatch of the Poison.

Calling special attention to points in the evidence, his Lordship remarked that sufficient poison was despatched from Sauthampton to Derby in this case to kill nine or ten men, and it was asked for and sent with every circumstance of concealment that could be imagined. Persons handling deadly drugs were bound to satisfy the jury with some reasonable explanation. He explained at some length how the position of Hetty struck him, and he sugested to the jury that her position made the acceptance of the dog story additionally difficult.

The jury would give such effect to the letters as they thought right. There was one count of the indictment apart from the conspiracy, that of proposing and soliciting to murder. In respect of that count there would appear to be only evidence against Mrs Wheeldon, but of course that depended upon whether they accepted Booth's evidence or not

The Jury's Verdict.

The jury retired to consider their verdict at 7.15, and returned into Court at 7.40.

The prisoners were again placed in the dock.

Replying to the usual questions by the Clerk of Arraigns, amidst a painfully intense silence, the foreman said—

The jury found Alice Wheeldon guilty on both counts of conspiring and of soliciting and proposing.

They found Hetty Wheeldon not guilty.

Alfred William Mason they found guilty of conspiracy, and

Winnie Mason they found guilty of conspiring, and they recommended the Masons to leniency on account of their youth.

His Lordship at once discharged Harriet Ann (Hetty) Wheeldon, and she left the dock conducted by a wardress.

"With regard to you, Winnie Mason," continued his Lordship in subdued tones, "you also have been a party to a grave crime, but I feel your position is largely due to the bad and wicked influence of your mother. Again I feel bound by the view the jury have taken that some leniency ought to be shown you. The sentence of the Court upon you is that you be kept in penal servitude for five years."

After passing the sentence the learned Judge released the jury from further service for seven years.

THE GREEK BLOCADE.

MR LLOYD GEORGE EXPLAINS WHY IT IS NOT RAISED.

Athens, Received Saturday Night.

The newspapers publish a telegram from Mr Lloyd George addressed to the President of the Athenian Bar in reply to a telegram sent by the latter on the subject of the blockade.

In his message Mr Lloyd George says that the British Government and the Allied Governments will be pleased to raise the blockade as soon as they are satisfied that the rGeek Government has complied with the demands set forth in the ultimatum of January 8 and the Notes of December 31 and January 14.

He adds that the blockade would already have been raised had certain incidents not taken place, such as the secret laying of mines in the Corinth canal and the continued activities of the Reservist's Leagues. These incidents, he concludes, aroused grave suspicions, and led to the inference that the promises of the Greek Government had been only partly carried out.—Exchange.

THE CHAMPAGNE BATTLE.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUEL.

Paris, Saturday Night.

The official communique issued to-night says:—

South of the Avre fire from our batteries caused an enemy munition depot to explode near L'Echelles D'Aurin.

In Champagne there was an artillery duel of some violence in the secters of St Hilaire le Grand and Maisons de Champagne. There was no infantry action.

On the rest of the front there was an intermittent cannonade.

FIGHTING REVIVES IN CHAMPAGNE.

Amsterdam, Saturday Night.

The German evening official report says:—Hazy weather having prevailed in the Ancre region there have been engagements between the opposing lines. During the evening fighting activity revived in Champagne. In the East there has been nothing of importance.

CHINA TO JOIN ALLIES.

Decision Expected Soon.

Pekin (Received Saturday Night.)

In Chinese circles it is believed that the Government will declare within ten days its intention of joining the Entente. The Entente is expected to consent to a revision of the Customs tariffs, the suspension of the Boxer Indemnity payments until the conclusion of the war, and the revision of the treaties, in return for which China will allow the unlimited recruiting of labourers and the supply of war materials, especially cotton, silk, iron, copper, timber, cattle, and rice.

SENTENCE IN POISON PLOT—Contd.

EVE OF DRAMATIC EVENTS.

ALLIES' ABSOLUTE CONFIDENCE ON WEST FRONT.

THE ADVANTAGE OF NUMBERS.

London, Saturday Night.

The following despatch has been received from the Press Association's special correspondent with the French Army:—

March opens in Northern France with bright skies and clear horizons. In the corner of Normandy where I write, in a country of utter peace, although within sound of the guns on the Ancre, the touch of spring is already on the land. Winter has not yet given up the struggle—almost every night the thermometer drops to freezing point—but he is obviously falling back on his last defences.

The disappearance of winter in 1917 is a matter of military importance. Soon the curtain will have gone up upon the tremendous drama, and we shall know what plans have been maturing through the winter behind the trench fronts. The Boches, if one may judge from the predictions of their "neutral" confidants, are counting upon a long spell of bad weather, such as might reasonably be expected at this time of year, to delay the opening of the campaign.

Germanic Hopes.

The Wilhelmstrausse, which is the source of pessimistic meteorology, exaggerates matters. There has, in fact, been very little rain since the month of January. During the four weeks' hard frost there were only one or two light snowfalls, and, although it is true that the frost is not yet entirely out of the ground, there can be no doubt that on and in the soil there is far less water than usual at this time of the year. When the frost is expelled, as it soon will be, the ground will dry very quickly if we have many such days as we have had recently. The Boche anticipations are not unreasonable, but there is every indication that the weather this time means to disappoint them.

Another point about which the Germans are very anxious to convince anyone who will listen to them is the utter impossibility of the continuance of our offensive on the Somme. Terrible pictures of the desolation of the battlefield are drawn. Behind the lines of the Allies a desert of corpse-infested mud stretches for hundreds of miles. There are neither roads nor drinking water, nor habitable trenches, and everything needed at the front must be dragged through mazes of enormous shell-craters. The mouthpieces of Bochedom here miss the impossible by a hair's breadth by exaggerating the discomforts of the Somme.

We will grant them the desert of mud, the villages blown to powder. But there are roads and plenty of them up to the front line trenches, and in the rear busy railways. On the day of the last French attack at Sailly-Saillisel, I stood on an excellent road along which French motor lorries were carrying supplies.

It is, of course, precisely behind sectors such as the Somme and Verdun that one finds the most perfectly organised systems of communications. The zone of utter chaos of which the German propagandists speak is in reality a belt from five to six miles wide, enclosed by the advanced artillery lines on each side. Here there are certainly no roads, but there are plenty of trenches and no lack of deep shelters. Whether fighting is to be renewed on the Somme battlefields of last autumn we shall soon know. The British line has been extended south of the river.

Enemy's Threats of New "Frightfulness."

The French army was never so strong as it is to-day. Against such men and their methods the Germans will have to oppose something more than the improved materiel de guerre on which they seem to place their chief reliance. Their propagandists make all the play they can with threats of new and intensified frightfulness this spring. Their infantry have received a greater proportion of machine guns, automatic rifles, and grenade rifles. New and terrific mortars, throwing bombs eighteen inches in girth, have been placed in their trenches. A larger and more systematised use of the essentially German weapons, poison gas and liquid flame, is promised, and as for wire defences, where formerly entanglements were five yards deep, they will be a hundred yards deep in future. Whether they have surprises in store in the matter of artillery and aeroplanes is not positively stated, although it is more than hinted that they have.

France awaits the opening of the great campaign without illusions and without qualms. All Frenchmen believe that the Allies can beat the Boches to their knees. They know that we have in France the advantage in numbers, and that we have men of the type that went through the German lines on December 15 like a rapier through a Stilton cheese. With such assets on our side there is nothing in all the laboratories of frightfulness that shall make us rue.

LATEST WIRES.

A message from Pekin states that there is reason to believe the Premier has withdrawn his resignation over the question of breaking off relations with Germany.

Captain Alfred Fritzen, believed to be a German naval officer, has been arrested at Los Angelos by a Federal Agent in connection with the well and canal plot.

Eight officers of the German steamer Liebenfles, which was sunk in Charleston Harbour on the night of January 31, have been sentenced to a years imprisonment in the Atlanta Penitentiary and to 100 dollars fine each.

A report from Rio de Janeiro states that the harbourmaster of Pernambuco has ordered the German vessels lying there to moor farther away from the entrance of the port.

Bulgarian newspapers publish official notices ordering all the male inhabitants of the departments of Nisch and Pivot between the ages of nineteen and forty to appear before the Bulgarian Recruiting Commissions within the next few days preparatory to joining the army.

HOW MRS HARLEY DIED.

BRAVEST WOMAN OF THE WAR.

NURSING WOUNDED MEN UNDER SHELL FIRE.

(Exclusive to "The Post Sunday Special.")

London, Saturday Night.

The whole country has been deeply touched by the heroic death of Mrs Harley, the devoted sister of Lord French, who fell a victim to the Bulgarian bombardment of Monastir a few days ago.

Mrs Harley was seated in an ambulance tending some Serbian refugees when she was fatally injured by a bit of shell.

The full story of Mrs Harley's association with the Scottish Hospital unit was related to-day to a representative of "The Post Sunday Special."

One of the Bravest Women of the War.

Mrs M'Laren, another Scottish woman who has worked with Lord French's sister, described her as one of the bravest women of the war.

"We are profoundly grieved by this tragic news," said Mrs M'Laren to our representative, "and her loss will be deplored by all members of our organisation. Mrs Harley and I were intimate friends, and up to the end of last year we corresponded regularly. Mrs Harley was heart and soul in her work, and she died in a manner which is the highest tribute that can be paid to one whose bravery and unselfishness were evidenced in every opportunity or emergency that presented itself. She had no thought for herself. Where risks had to be undertaken to nurse the maimed or the stricken she was always the first to volunteer.

A Slave to Duty.

"Mrs Harley, I might mention, has had many narrow escapes from death previously, though this fact is not generally known. It was at Royaumont that I made the acquaintance of Lord French's sister. She had been sent there by the Edinburgh Branch of the Scottish Hospital Unit. At the time I was working with the French Red Cross Society, and, needless to add, we were together a good deal. Mrs Harley was a slave to duty, and her boundless energy never seemed to be affected by the long hours and the fatigue which had to be borne. Work, work, work was her motto all the time, and her perseverance was later rewarded by the French War Office, who advised the Red Cross Society to appoint Mrs Harley as administrator of a new hospital at Troyes.

"You must not imagine that the hospital to which I refer compared with similar institutions in London. Far from it. The Troyes hospital was a canvas shelter to which the French wounded were brought when it was possible to remove them from the firing line.

Bombardments Had No Terrors For Her.

"I will not dwell upon the terrible conditions which then prevailed in France, but some day I hope the truth will be told of all that Mrs Harley and her heroic companions were called upon to endure. The German bombardments had no terrors for her. Very often she would venture out at moments when the Boches were shelling everything that came within the range of their guns. Even the wounded were not spared at this period. Mrs Harley would dash to the rescue across the shell-swept areas, because as she often observed in her own simple way, 'it's my job.'

"Mrs Harley, I think, endeared herself to the French authorities more than any other woman abroad. General Joffre frequently expressed his admiration for Lord French's sister, who, in spite of her years, would not be robbed of her chance of helping the men at the front.

Volunteers For the Balkans.

"Having organised several hospitals and shelters in France Mrs Harley turned her eyes to the East. I remember well how one day an officer mentioned that the French Government was about to despatch an expeditionary force to the Balkans. When Mrs Harley heard the tidings her eyes lit up and she smiled, 'Then I shall go there, too.'

"Bad as the conditions were in France we knew that as an enterprise it must entail greater hardships and dangers. Nothing, however, would compel Mrs Harley to alter her mind, and just before the summer of 1915 she left with a small party for Salonika. The world knows only too well the stirring events which were then taking place. The Serbian Army was threatened with disaster, and was only saved by magnificent generalship.

"The great retreat was one of the most wonderful things on record. It was impossible to remain at Ghevevi, where the Scottish unit had established a temporary base. There was no rest for anyone, and our gallant leader did not lay her head on a pillow for many days. It was a weary, war-worn, nerve-shattered party of women that reached Salonika. Throughout all the distress, privation, and anguish Mrs Harley never complained.

Decorated for Her Gallantry.

"General Sarrail learnt of her gallantry and endurance. One afternoon after the return to Salonika the French Commander-in-Chief sent for Mrs Harley. General Sarrail presented her with an address from the French Army, and then personally decorated her with the Croix de Guerre. Such an honour only embarrassed one who by nature was extremely modest."

Her return to Britain subsequently was but a flying visit. She was soon back again in Serbia, where there was so much to be done for the wounded and the refugees. At the hospital, which was situated nearly three thousand feet above sea level, she worked day and night helping to dress the injured who were brought in.

Her life was endangered many times, but Mrs Harley would not flinch in her devotion to the cause in which she has now made the supreme sacrifice.

CONTROLLER'S PLAN TO STOP FOOD HOARDING.

POLICE TO VISIT SUSPECTED HOUSES.

CAPTAIN BATHURST'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF SERIOUS POTATO SHORTAGE.

Gloucester, Saturday Night.

An important pronouncement on the food situation was made by Captain Bathurst, M.P., Assistant Food Controller, in a speech delivered here this afternoon.

There is a serious shortage of potatoes, and at the present rate of consumption there will be no potatoes available for anybody in about six weeks time.

To render potatoes available for those who depend mainly on them, those who can do so should abstain wholly or partially from the consumption of potatoes for the next three months.

The Food Controller contemplates regulations for the most drastic treatment of food hoarders. He has powers to enable the police to enter the houses of suspected hoarders and make public their mean and criminal selfishness.

The Food Controller does not want to have recourse to compulsory rationing, which, Captain Bathurst announces, has been a failure in Germany, where owing to fraudulent practices there are five million more food tickets in circulation than there is population.

CAPT. BATHURST'S SPEECH.

POLICE VISITS TO HOARDERS' HOUSES.

Gloucester, Saturday Night.

Captain Charles Bathurst, M.P., Assistant Food Controller, spoke to-day at a patriotic economy exhibition at Gloucester.

The issues of the war, he said, would be determined at least as much by economic considerations as by military strategy and prowess. Battles could be won and yet the war might be lost and an ignoble peace signed by there being non-available either money or food.

There are, he continued, no large supplies of food, unfortunately, in this country at the present time, and such supplies as there are are likely to be more limited as time goes on. The last lap in the race for victory will be by far the most difficult and will involve the greatest sacrifice, both of our fighting men and our civil population.

The nation is now to be put to the supreme test, and unless they are prepared to face that test with courage and self-denial all the blood and treasure of the nation will have been poured forth in vain.

There was nothing, he proceeded, more dangerous at the present time than the power of the purse, for to use that power would be inflicting a cruel injustice on the masses of the population, who were not so well circumstanced. If the Power were inefficiently fed, war weariness, and possibly social unrest, might compel the loss of all that we had fought for in this terrible struggle.

A Warning Against Waste.

As a nation our domestic habits were most unscientific, and what was thrown out at the back doors or poured down our drains would supply the food of an army. Economy in our consumption was undoubtedly desirable in public eating-houses and in clubs, but its importance was in no way to be compared with economy in the consumption of breadstuffs and of potatoes, which were, unfortunately, so scarce to-day, not only throughout the United Kingdom, but throughout the world.

In fact, if the meatless day, which people out of patriotism are now observing, involves a larger consumption of bread, it operates to the positive harm of the poorer class of the community.

Bread, when made as it will be made hereafter, will be almost a complete food, and it will be quite a complete food with the addition of margarine or butter. Bread will become noticeably darker, and at the same time more nutritious, in the course of the next few weeks.

There is a serious scarcity in potatoes.

The shortage is greater than any time in the past forty years, and at the present rate of consumption there will be no potatoes available for anyone in about six weeks' time.

But we can do something to render them available to those who depend most largely upon them for their maintenance by abstaining from their consumption, either wholly or partially, for the next three months.

I want to ask those who can go without potatoes to follow that course, as one dictated by the highest patriotism. (Hear, hear.)

There are other substitutes which can be employed, such as rice, maize, meal, and pearl barley, and other things. Again, the super kinds of meat should be left to the poor.

Do not let meat be served in your houses with bones. The latter should be put into the stock for soup and other purposes.

Only cook food once, because twice-cooked food loses in food value.

Don't use toast with your luncheon unless you really require it as food.

Convert your surplus milk into cheese rather than butter.

Police May Search Houses of Food Hoarders.

With regard to sugar, that comes, unfortunately, almost wholly from abroad. The trouble about sugar is the inequality of its distribution. An adult can go without sugar, but children cannot, and therefore we want to serve the children, who are more precious at the present moment than they have ever been.

The reason of its inequality of distribution is due to the selfishness of individuals who are getting more than they are entitled to. The hoarding of this and other groceries is receiving at present the paramount attention of the Food Controller, and he is contemplating the most drastic treatment of this contemptible, unpatriotic, and cruel practice. (Cheers.)

Under the Defence of the Realm Act it is possible for him not merely to examine trade books, but instances of the hoarding, and he has power to enable the police to enter the houses of suspected hoarders and make public their mean and criminal selfishness. Those are the steps which we have reason to believe he may have to take in consequence of the meanness of the persons to whom I refer. (Cheers.)

Failure of Germany's Compulsory Rationing.

There has been much said about compulsory rationing and the issue of food tickets. We don't want to have recourse to any such un-British system (Hear, hear.)

In the first place we don't want it, because we still believe we can trust to the honour and patriotism of the people to save our taking such a course. In the next place, undoubtedly it would fail in its effect very largely as it did in Germany. There are more than five million tickets amongst the German public—more than there is population owing to fraudulent practices. Moreover, such a system would involve elaborate administrative machinery and the employment of a very large staff of men and women who would be far more usefully employed in other directions in work of national importance.

If the poor are to be adequately supplied with food in the next six months it will be largely owing to the thoughtful buying of their food by the well-to-do. (Cheers.)

SCOTTISH LEGAL LADIES' TREAT TO SOLDIERS.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

A number of wounded soldiers from Maryhill Military Hospital were entertained in the Central Halls, Bath Street, Glasgow, this afternoon.

The arrangements were in the hands of the lady friends of the Glasgow staff of the Scottish Legal Life Assurance Society, the more prominent members contributing generous support.

In addition to substantial teas provided by the ladies, whist, games, and a splendid vaudeville programme were submitted, Mr Richard Burt presiding at the piano.

Before leaving each of the maimed warriors was presented with a writing pad and a supply of postage stamps.

LEITH COOPERS' WAGES.

Leith, Saturday.

Leith coopers have demanded a further rise of a penny per hour, or 4s per week. Since the outbreak of war the coopers have received advances of 2s per week in April, 1915; 2s in August, 1915; 2s in March, 1916; and 2s in September, 1916, making 8s in all. The master coopers have refused the demand, and it is understood that both sides are willing that the matter should go to arbitration. The feeling among the employers is that as their businesses have suffered so severely through Government restrictions, and are likely to be harder hit in the near future, and as the coopers have already received substantial advances since the war began, the present demand is unreasonable. The men, on the other hand, view with growing alarm the great increase in the cost of living.

DUNDEE'S "NEWCASTLE BOAT."

Dundee, Saturday.

Arrangements are well advanced for the business of the Dundee and Newcastle Steam Shipping Co., Ltd., being taken over by the Dundee, Perth, and London Shipping Co., Ltd. The Dundee and Newcastle Co. owns one vessel, the s.s. Tay and Tyne.

SCRIPTURAL DISCUSSION AT AYR TRIBUNAL.

APPELLANT'S STRANGE AGE-LIMIT PLEA.

Ayr, Saturday.

A new type of "conscientious objector" was heard at the Ayrshire Appeal Tribunal, when an elderly working man appealed against the decision of the local Tribunal sending his only remaining son of nineteen into the army. He based his appeal on the scriptural injunction in the Book of Numbers that no man should go to war until he was twenty-one years of age. His other three sons had gone on service on that principle early in the war. That was a principle that should guide the nation still. Proceeding, he said that in 490 B.C. God took away the world power of the Jews and placed it in the hands of the Gentiles.

Sheriff Lyon Mackenzie—And at the present moment we want to take it out of the hands of the Devil. (Laughter.)

Appellant made good use of the three minutes allowed him in which to further state his case, and said he pleaded with God continually to give our Empire speedy victory; at the same time he sought to maintain the integrity of his own soul.

The Sheriff—What has he been passed for?

Appellant—General service.

Captain Galloway, the military representative, referred appellant to Samuel 1, chapter 17, and remarked that if his son went forth to slay the German Goliath he would still be acting on scriptural lines.

Appellant—What age was David. (Laughter.)

Captain Galloway—Under twenty. (Laughter.)

Appellant—I don't think so. (Laughter.)

The Sheriff reminded him that the new dispensation superseded the old.

In sustaining the appeal and granting exemption till the 1st June, the Sheriff said it was granted solely on the grounds that he had three sons in the army.

TOWNSHEND'S AVENGER

General Maude, whose troops are closing in on Bagdad.

ROTHESAY'S ANXIETY.

SUMMER STEAMER SERVICE ON THE CLYDE.

Rothesay, Saturday.

Much satisfaction is felt in Rothesay and other Clyde resorts at the Government announcement that the munition workers in Scotland will be allowed the usual spring holidays next month. It was anticipated that the general situation might result in these holidays being cancelled, with the result that the Clyde resorts would be severely hit at the very opening of their season.

Prospects for the ensuing season in Rothesay are difficult to determine. The 50 per cent. increase in travelling fares may restrict the number of holiday-makers visiting the Madeira, while, on the other hand, it may increase them, by inducing people who took their holidays so far afield as, say, London or the Isle of Man, now to spend their summer vacations in some Clyde seaside district. The limited railway facilities will also be an inducement for Glasgow people taking holidays nearer home. The Easter and spring holiday period will, however, afford useful indications by which the prospects for next season can be gauged.

Rothesay Town Council intend taking energetic steps towards securing an amplification of the present steamer service whenever the season opens. The railway companies are understood to be unwilling to concede further facilities, but as the prosperity of the island of Bute entirely depends on an efficient railway and steamer connection with Glasgow and the West of Scotland generally, the local authorities are determined to press the matter in the most influential quarters.

GLASGOW RAILWAY STATION FATALITY.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

A signal fitter named Thomas Inman, who resided at 50 Preston Street, was fatally injured this afternoon while working in St Enoch Station of the Glasgow and South-Western Railway. He failed to observe the approach of a train, with the result that his right arm and left leg were severed. He was removed to the Royal Infirmary, where he died about half an hour after admission.

BOY STEALS MOTOR CAR.

CAUGHT BY 'CUTE CONSTABLE.

Edinburgh, Saturday.

The remarkable doings of a boy thief were related at Edinburgh Sheriff Court to-day.

The accused was George Mitchell M'Lennan (15), and in January and last month he stole in various parts of Edinburgh no fewer than five ordinary bicycles, a motor bicycle, and a motor car.

The motor car had been left outside the Caledonian Station Hotel by an officer, who had gone in to have dinner in the hotel. Seeing the car for the moment unattended, M'Lennan jumped in and drove off to his home. In the meantime the loss of the car had been reported, and a smart police constable traced it to M'Lennan's house. The boy was in the house when the constable called, and, hearing that a policeman was asking for him, he at once made his escape through a window. The constable, however, was anticipating a move of this kind, and, going round the house, he caught the lad in the back green as he was on the point of bolting.

Asked to explain his possession of the motor car, M'Lennan said it belonged to a doctor, and he was the driver of it. The fact that the number on the car had been reversed and the plate interfered with had already been noted by the constable, and he got the boy to drive him to the police station, where the car was identified by its owner.

The lad's parents had been totally unaware of his conduct. He had told them he was working, and that the cycles and the motor car belonged to his employer.

"A shockingly bad case," was Sheriff Orr's comment as he ordered the lad to be sent to a reformatory till he reaches the age of nineteen.

GLASGOW PACIFISTS

SUGGEST PEACE BY NEGOTIATION.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

Glasgow pacifists had an innings this afternoon, the occasion being a conference arranged by the local Peace Negotiation Joint Committee.

Councillor Dollan, who presided, explained that the conference had to be held in the Central Hall, Bath Street, because Glasgow Corporation shut them out of the City Halls, having refused to let the hall to any body who advocated putting an end to the war. Referring to the report on the Dardanelles operations, Mr Dollan characterised it as the gravest condemnation to militarism that had ever been issued.

Mr Pethick Lawrence moved a resolution expressing the belief that a negotiated settlement rather than a dictated settlement would best secure the future peace of Europe, and that a continuance of the war would only bring further disasters upon the peoples of the world without settling any of the issues involved. A lasting peace, he urged, could only be based on the fundamentals of freedom, justice, and liberty. Councillor Wheatley seconded.

Mr Twaffle, representing the British Workers' National League, moved an amendment to the effect that it was inopportune to advise peace negotiations now, and that in any case peace negotiations should not be proceeded with until Belgium had been evacuated. He regretted that Belgium and all its horrors had not been mentioned from the platform during the speaking. The brutalities and atrocities, he said, showed that the Germans were not a reasonable people, or a people with whom we could negotiate.

The amendment was seconded, but, on a vote being taken, only one delegate supported the amendment, the resolution in favour of peace by negotiation, therefore, being carried.

Mrs Agnes Dollan and ex-Councillor Shanks also spoke.

HAMILTON'S WAR RECORD

A Notable Street.

Hamilton, Saturday.

The announcement to-day that the D.C.M. has been conferred on Sergeant Walter Banks, Black Watch, brings Hamilton conspicuously to the front with what is confidently believed to be a record for the United Kingdom.

The record is that in one street in Hamilton—Selkirk Street—there are to be found the homes of three winners of the D.C.M. and one Military Medallist. The residences of these gallant men are confined to a radius of fifty yards, while Selkirk Street itself is little more than a hundred and fifty yards in length.

The D.C.M. winners belonging to Selkirk Street are:—Sergeant Walter Banks, Black Watch; Sergeant Downie, Scottish Rifles; and Corporal Alex. Brown, K.O.S.B.; while the proud wearer of the Military Medal ribbon is Private George Kerr, Gordon Highlanders. Sergeant Banks, the latest D.C.M., was mobilised as a reservist in August, 1914, and has been three times wounded.

FELLOW-APPRENTICE WITH CAMPBELL BANNERMAN.

Dumfries, Saturday Night.

The death is announced of Mr David Mitchell, Laurieston Avenue, Maxwelltown, Dumfries. Mr Mitchell was employed for many years with the firm of J. and W. Campbell & Co., warehousemen, Ingram Street, Glasgow, and was a fellow-apprentice with the late Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, whose personal friendship he enjoyed throughout his life. Mr Mitchell was for many years a member of Govan Parish Council. On retiring he went to live at Maxwelltown. He was eighty-six years of age.

BANCHORY GIRL'S MISDEEDS.

UNUSUAL CASE AT ABERDEEN.

Aberdeen, Saturday.

A sad story of an eighteen-year-old Banchory girl's career was unfolded at Aberdeen Police Court to-day, when Catherine Ogg, from the cells, admitted having in a dwelling-house in King's Street, occupied by a widow, obtained board and lodging to the value of five shillings without having paid or intending to pay, stolen a cloak and skirt from the same house, and from a shop in New Market stolen a nightdress, chemise, and a pair of drawers.

According to the Fiscal, her criminal career started at the age of fourteen, when she ran away from home. She had already been in the hands of the police, having been sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment at Edinburgh Sheriff Court. She was ultimately found wandering about keeping loose company. She was handed over to her people at Banchory, but she again ran away. Falling into the hands of the police for fraud, she was sent to a home in Dundee. After a short stay there she again ran away, and once more fell into the hands of the police on a charge of stealing. She was put on probation for twelve months, and was put in a rescue home in Dundee, from which, after a short stay, she escaped, and proceeded to Edinburgh.

In the capital she got employment, and kept it quite a long time, until it was discovered that she had been stealing from her mistress. She made her way to Aberdeen, and to a widow in King Street stated that her trunks were at the station, and that she was expecting money from Edinburgh. Mrs Duncan, the widow, kept her for a few days, and then the accused left, taking with her a cloak and skirt, which she disposed of for three shillings. In the course of her wanderings she struck up an acquaintance with a servant who was carrying a parcel. While accused was with her the girl went into a dealer's shop and asked if he would keep the parcel until called for. Some time in the afternoon Ogg called and said she had been sent for the parcel, which was given her, and which she disposed of for five shillings.

The Magistrate passed sentence of forty shillings, with the alternative of twenty days' imprisonment.

FOOD SUPPLIES PROBLEM.

THE POSITION IN DUNDEE.

Dundee, Saturday.

Potatoes are much scarcer in Dundee than they have been at any time during the past few weeks, and the trouble has been accentuated by the severe spell of frost.

For several days no potatoes have been sold in Dundee shops, and anybody who has a supply can dispose of the whole lot in double-quick time.

Anxiety is growing in regard to other classes of provisions. Hams are becoming scarce. Sugar is difficult to obtain, and cheese shows a remarkable rise in price. It is selling at 1s 10d per lb, and will probably soon reach the 2s mark.

Merchants state that the wholesale price of cheese is fully double what it was, and in some cases almost three times beyond the pre-war rates.

DECREASE IN LEITH CONVICTIONS.

Leith, Saturday.

The question of prohibition has for some time past been engaging the attention of the Leith Town Council. In order that they might have statistics for drunkenness in Leith before them, the Council asked Chief Constable M'Leod to report on the matter. The report is now before the Council, and, though it will not be published in full, it is understood to be highly complimentary to the town.

There has been, according to the statistics of the Chief Constable, a considerable reduction in drunkenness in the burgh since war broke out. Shortly after the commencement of hostilities there was a slight increase, but since then the number of convictions has decreased, until it is now well below 30 per cent. of what it was in 1915. Among women drunkenness is lower at present than since 1913, while an interesting fact is that the number of "first appearances" is substantially under that for the year before the war. Mr M'Leod says that drunkenness among workers has been greatly reduced, and it is now a rare occurrence to see men going from their work drunk.

RENTON TEACHERS AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

Renton, Saturday.

At a meeting of the Cardross School Board, held at Renton, and presided over by Mr Walter Bisland, a letter was submitted from Mr George Wotherspoon, Renton Public School, stating that several members of the senior and supplementary departments in the Renton School could not see fit in the meantime to promise to undertake clerical or other work of national service, but would consider what they might be able to do in the near future. As for himself, he had been a member of the Volunteer Training Corps from the period of its institution. He had been engaged in munition work during the six weeks' holidays of last summer, and was again, as in the past two years, offering his services for special work during any of his holidays.

The Board decided that the clerk should write the teachers asking them what they were prepared to do in the way of assisting national service. It was also agreed that Mr Wotherspoon receive a war bonus of £5 for his extra work in the Renton evening continuation classes.

A permit has been granted for the erection of new steelworks for the Scottish Iron and Steel Company, Limited, at Coatbridge.

CAMBUSLANG'S GARDEN SUBURB.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION FOR STEEL-WORKERS.

Cambuslang, Saturday.

Mr W. E. Whyte, Clerk to the Middle Ward District Committee of Lanark County Council, has furnished some interesting particulars in connection with the model houses which the Government are erecting at Cambuslang for munition workers.

The houses are to be of two and three rooms and kitchen, with all conveniences, including a bath for each house. One hundred of the houses are to be of a wholly permanent type — brick and rough cast—erected on the cottage principle in pairs, with garden ground attached. The others will be of a lighter form of construction. As the houses will be laid out on the garden suburb principle, a very attractive scheme has been secured for the district. The houses are being erected for the Minister of Munitions under agreement with the County Council that the latter body will take over the houses three years after the termination of the war at their then market value. It is understood that the Minister of Munitions will nominate as tenants employees of a local steelworks.

DUNDEE OPENS HOSTEL

FOR SERBIAN BOYS.

Dundee, Saturday.

This afternoon the Boys' Hostel at Fernbrae, Dundee, was formally opened by Lord Provost Don.

On the invitation of the executive, about 140 guests were present.

In declaring the hostel open, Lord Provost Don said the work being done was of vast importance, and would have far-reaching results for the future.

They recognised they had a duty to perform to Serbia, which had done so much for this country.

Addressing the boys, the Lord Provost said it was certain their connection with Scotland would not cease in Dundee, and expressed the hope that they would carry back with them to Serbia happy recollections of the time they had spent in Scotland.

In reply, Master Bozhidar Ostoyitch, one of the Serbian boys, speaking in good English, pointed out that they had suffered many hardships before coming to Britain.

As the oldest boy in the hostel, he was glad to have the opportunity of expressing to those present the gratitude of all the boys in the hostel for the British people. When he and his colleagues returned to Serbia they would never forget the kindliness and hospitality that had been extended to them in Dundee.

BO'NESS FATALIYT.

Young Shunter Killed.

Bo'ness, Saturday.

As the result of an accident the death occurred at Kinneil Collieries to-day of James M'Lean (16), employed as a shunter.

A train of eleven loaded waggons was being drawn out from a siding to the west of the works preparatory to being weighed, and as only seven of the waggons could be put through at a time it was necessary to uncouple the remaining four. In the course of this operation M'Lean inserted a sprag in an attempt to stop this portion, but instead of standing at the back he stood at the front of the pole, with the result that he was knocked down on the line and dragged for some distance. His body was badly crushed and bruised, particularly about the chest, and he died within a few minutes of being extricated. Inspector Simpson, who happened to be on the ground at the time, was an eye-witness of the distressing occurrence, and he shouted to the engine-driver, who pulled up at once. After a formal examination by Dr Aitken the body was removed to the deceased's home at 78 Castleloan.

AIRDRIE GAS OFFICIAL FOR ENGLAND.

Airdrie, Saturday.

This afternoon, after the payment of the wages of the staff, the workers of the Airdrie Gas Department met at the works office to make a presentation to Mr Robert Hunter, head of the clerical and bookkeeping staff, on the occasion of his departure to fill a similar position with the Newark Gas Company, in the Midlands of England. Mr J. W. M'Lusky, the engineer and manager, in the name of the staff and workmen, presented Mr Hunter with an inlaid sheraton drawing-room clock as a mark of the esteem in which they held him during the ten and a half years he had been amongst them. Mr Hunter suitably replied, thanking the staff for their kindness.

BURNING ACCIDENT TO CHILD.

Kilsyth, Saturday.

Another serious burning accident — the third within a very short time — to a child has occurred in Kilsyth district. Kathleen Differ, the little daughter of Mrs Peter Differ, Turneyhill, Twechar, had been left in the house with her brother, and when near the fire her clothing became ignited. The boy managed to extinguish the flames. The girl lies in Kilsyth Hospital in a serious condition.

ARBROATH HARBOUR.

Arbroath, Saturday.

Arbroath Harbour Trustees, at a special meeting to-day, unanimously agreed to request Arbroath Town Council to devise a scheme which will ensure the retention of the harbour and its amenities to the town. Owing to the war the trade of the harbour has decreased to almost vanishing point, and, though the expenditure has been reduced to the minimum, it is not self-supporting.

DEATH.

LOWSON.—Died of wounds, in France, on 6th March, Captain Norman Coutie Lowson, M.C., Royal Engineers, aged 24, only son of Mr and Mrs James Lowson, 10 South Park Terrace, Glasgow, W., and late of Carnoustie.

THE UNANSWERED 'PHONE.

COURT THE SEQUEL TO AIR RAID ALARM.

Airdrie, Saturday.

An unusual prosecution, the first of its kind in this district, was brought in the Sheriff Court here against James M'Gill, an employee in the service of the Scottish Iron and Steel Company, Ltd., Coatbridge.

Accused was in charge of the telephone during the night at the works in question, and as the works are on the list of those exempted under the lighting restrictions (Defence of the Realm Act), seeing they could be rung up from the Exchange at any moment to put out all lights, the owners had to have an attendant at the 'phone ready to answer the warning of an air raid when it came.

It was for failing to be within hearing when the telephone exchange rang up when an air raid warning was given that accused was now charged. He pleaded guilty.

Mr M'Murdo, agent for the company, said the man had gone outside and round the works to see that all was right, and it was during his temporary absence that the warning came, and to which, of course, he did not respond. The company, however, had taken steps to prevent anything of the kind happening again. This was the first case of the kind that had occurred in the district, and the prosecution would be a warning to the company and to everybody else.

The Sheriff imposed a fine of £5, which was paid.

RAISING SCHOOL AGE.

Educational Questions Discussed at Dumfries.

Dumfries, Saturday Night.

A meeting of the Dumfriesshire Branch of the Educational Institute of Scotland was held at Dumfries this afternoon, when a discussion took place in regard to teachers' salaries.

Mr Alexander, Terregles, presided. It was reported that a number of Boards in Dumfriesshire had increased the salaries of teachers, or granted a war bonus of £20 per annum. A number of other Boards were still considering the matter. It was agreed to nominate Mr Strang, rector of Edinburgh High School, for the Presidentship of the Institute. An address was given by Dr Morgan, Edinburgh, convener of the Scottish Educational Reform Committee, in the course of which he advocated the raising of the school age to sixteen, and that pupils who leave school at fifteen should be compelled to attend part-time day continuation schools until eighteen. He advocated that education in the rural schools should receive a more distinct agricultural bias than at the present time.

CLYDE PIERMASTERS AND MILITARY SERVICE.

Dunoon, Saturday.

The military representative for Cowal and Dunoon (Major James Pender) has to-day intimated to the County Court appeals in the cases of the piermasters on the Clyde against the decisions given this week by the lower Tribunals for Dunoon and Cowal. The piers affected are Dunoon, Kirn, Hunter's Quay, Sandbank, and Lochgoilhead.

All the piermasters and the pier foremen of Dunoon and Sandbank held exemptions from military service, but following a communication from the War Office the military asked for a revision. The Cowal Tribunal revoked the exemptions of the piermaster of Lochgoilhead and the pier foreman at Sandbank, and gave two months' exemption, but the military objected to the decision, and this week Dunoon Tribunal declined to withdraw the exemptions to Dunoon, Kirn, and Hunter's Quay piermasters.

The County Appeal Court, of which Sheriff-Principal M'Clure is chairman, will consider the appeals on Friday, and the result is being followed with keen interest.

CO-OP. EMPLOYEES' WAGES.

Kilsyth, Saturday.

The Kilsyth and District Co-Operative Society's employees, who have for some time been negotiating for a 33 1-3 per cent. increase in wages, which has led to a strike in some parts of the country, have accepted an offer of an advance of 15 per cent. as from 1st January last.

HAMILTON WIFE'S ACTION

AGAINST HUSBAND NOW SERVING AT THE FRONT.

STOPPED WRITING WHEN IN CANADA.

Edinburgh, Saturday.

Isabella Lindsay Ferguson or Craig, Douglas Street, Hamilton, was to-day granted decree of divorce against her husband, Mungo Craig, at one time saddler, Sunnybank Terrace, Wishaw. The summons stated that the defender's present address was unknown, but in the course of the evidence it was mentioned that he had enlisted in the Canadian contingent, and was now in France.

Pursuer stated that she was married in December, 1897, at Motherwell. There had been one girl of the marriage, who died. The marriage was not happy. Her husband was addicted to drink and late hours. He struck her, and also threatened her, and she had to leave him once or twice and go to stay with her father.

She returned to him after having been staying with her father for some time. Defender in that year went to Canada. He was to make a home to take her out.

Stopped Writing.

During the first year he sent her about £40, but after that stopped writing. Her brother met him in Canada, and wrote home about her coming out. Her father wired that she would come out if defender would send the money.

I reply to that telegram she got a short pencil note saying not to come out just yet. She learned that he joined the Army in Canada on the outbreak of war, and had been in the Motherwell district, but had not come to see her. He was in the British Army just now in France.

LOCHGILPHEAD MAN DESERTS.

Police Rewarded for His Capture.

Lochgilphead, Saturday.

A local soldier named Andrew Brown pleaded guilty in the Sheriff Court to a charge of deserting his battalion.

Accused had received leave of absence some considerable time ago, visiting his father here, but, failing to return to his battalion, the military authorities notified the police that he had deserted. His arrest was effected in the Furnace district, but although handcuffed he managed to escape.

As a result of their inquiries the police recently discovered that the accused was in the Duror neighbourhood, and he was ultimately captured at Lochnell by three constables, who at the suggestion of the Fiscal received £1 each.

The Sheriff ordered accused to be detained in custody pending the arrival of a military escort.

GREENOCK FLYING MAN KILLED.

Greenock, Saturday.

Mrs Harms, Brougham Street, has been officially notified of the death of her son, Second-Lieutenant Wm. Harms, of the Royal Flying Corps, attached to the Northumberland Fusiliers. He had been out on special duty when he was attacked by four Huns.

The deceased officer was only twenty years of age, and served his apprenticeship in the Royal Bank of Scotland. Prior to the war he was in the London office of the National Bank of India.

DENNY FREEMASON HONOURED.

Denny, Saturday.

In recognition of his valued services to the craft, and his mother Lodge in particular, Brother H. G. Cruden, Past-Master, Lodge St Andrew, Denny and Loanhead, No. 176, has been made the recipient of a valuable gold watch, along with a pendant of pearls and peridots for Mrs Cruden.

In Masonic circles in the Province of Stirlingshire Bro. Cruden is well known and highly esteemed, and to him is due much of the credit for the high state of perfection his mother Lodge has attained.

"PRAY FOR DADDY."

MOTHER'S TOUCHING FAREWELL TO CHILDREN

Bonnybridge, Saturday.

The relatives of Mrs Abel, Glencairn, Bonnybridge, who disappeared on 21st February, to-day report that all their efforts to trace the missing woman have proved futile, while the police, to whom the mystery was reported, state they have no tidings.

Leaving a note addressed to her children, couched in the following terms:—

"Goodbye, dear children. I can stay with you no longer, and may never see you again. Do not think too bad of me, and remember always to pray for your daddy."

Mrs Abel, in the early hours of Wednesday morning, 21st February, went forth from her comfortable, well-furnished home, and travelled with an early morning train on that date from High Bonnybridge Station. Nothing has since been heard of her.

The missing woman, who is the wife of Rifleman Arthur Abel, Rifle Brigade, and the mother of five children, aged ten, eight, six, three, and one years, had no financial worries, and appeared to live very happily with her family.

The children, whose interests are being attended to by the local official of the War Pension Committee, are being cared for by their grandmother.

CO-OPERATORS AND FOOD SUPPLIES.

Questions Asked at Meeting of Wholesale Society.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

Several questions regarding food supplies were asked at the meeting held in Glasgow this afternoon of the Scottish Co-Operative Wholesale Society.

Mr Robert Stewart, who presided, pointed out the difficulty in connection with the potato supply, owing to Scottish potatoes being reserved for seed. He mentioned incidentally that the question had been mooted of bringing potatoes to Britain from Canada. As to the sugar supply, they were doing their best to obtain an increased quantity, especially for those districts in which there had been a large increase of population, owing to the establishment of munition factories.

Power was given to extend the tobacco factory at Shieldhall, at a cost of between £6000 and £7000. A number of grants were made to charitable and benevolent organisations, and the Board were authorised to appoint six delegates to represent the society at the forthcoming conference at Swansea.

BECAUSE HE WAS TIPSY.

Attempted to Break Into Public-House.

Airdrie, Saturday.

Owen Lafferty, miner, Low Row, Darngavil, Whiterigg, was brought before the Sheriff here charged with attempting to break into a public-house about eleven o'clock last Saturday night. He pleaded guilty, and said he was drunk and didn't know what he was doing. He had a very sore head, and was wanting to get more drink.

The Sheriff—You should not take drink if you suffer from things of that kind.

It appeared accused had got hold of an axe, and was found busily engaged in trying to hack his way into the licensed premises by the window. He was find £5, or thirty days.

PAISLEY CHILDREN'S NARROW ESCAPES.

Paisley, Saturday.

Two accidents, as a result of which a boy and a girl narrowly escaped serious injury, have been reported to the police.

This forenoon a horse yoked to a van took fright in Moss Street, and bolted. As it turned into High Street a wheel of the van evidently caught on the tramway rail and it was overturned. Robert Gilmour (9), 18 Sandholes, who was seated in the van, was thrown to the ground, and had to be attended to by Dr Walker in an adjoining shop.

A ten-year-old girl, Annie Watson, was scalded on the face and arms through the upsetting of a kettle of boiling water in the house at 2 Mossvale Lane, where she lives.

MONTROSE BLAZE.

DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT £2000.

Montrose, Saturday Night.

An alarming and destructive conflagration to-day caused damage, estimated at £2000, to the Union Mills, Montrose, meantime occupied as a military barracks. The outbreak, which was first observed about 9 a.m., had its origin in the south end of the roof of the building, a four-storey one. A southerly wind was blowing, and the fire rapidly crossed the roof.

The Montrose Fire Brigade, under Firemaster Craigie, made a smart turn-out, and had several lines of hose playing on the building, but, the pressure of water being insufficient to effectively reach the burning part, the Arbroath and Dundee Brigades were telephoned for, and made a quick response. The floors are fireproof, and this fortunately prevented the fire consuming the vast building. The soldiers made their escape from their quarters in safety, but a large part of their sleeping apartments has been rendered uninhabitable by water.

Anthony Keenan, 69 North Tay Street, Dundee, one of the members of the Fire Brigade from that city, while proceeding to the fire, slipped off the engine seven and a half miles west of Arbroath, and sustained two fractures of the right leg, caused by one of the wheels of the fire engine passing over it. He was attended by Dr Gilruth, Arbroath, and subsequently removed to Dundee Infirmary by motor ambulance.

STRANGE "MARRIAGE" COMPACT.

EDINBURGH MUSICIAN AND A WIDOW.

Edinburgh, Saturday.

As a sequel to a bigamy charge, John William Bardsley, who was formerly a musician in Edinburgh, St Andrews, and Broughty Ferry, was to-day divorced by his wife.

The action was at the instance of Isabella White or Bardsley, 9 Great Junction Street, Perth. Defender's address was given as 1 Clivedon Terrace, Longton, Staffordshire, and Amelia Couper, widow, residing at the same address, was called as co-defender.

Pursuer (35) stated that he was married in March, 1903. There were two children of the marriage, one of whom is now alive. They lived at various places in Leith, and ultimately took up house with her mother in Leith. Her husband was a musician by profession. He was addicted to drink very much, and in 1908 was taken to the infirmary as the result.

The Wife's Strange Discovery.

In December, 1909, he left her. He went first to Oldham, and then he got a post as a pianist in St Andrews, Broughty Ferry, and various other places. She tried to find him, but failed. In 1916 a friend inserted an advertisement in a theatrical paper. He answered this, and she discovered he was staying in Staffordshire with a woman, the co-defender in this action.

She went to Longton, and found them together, and she got statements from each of them saying they were married.

Lord Anderson remarked that the one by the defender was to the lieges and to all whom it may concern. His Lordship also remarked that in a joint statement saying they were married both had signed their names over a penny stamp.

Pursuer gave information to the criminal authorities, and in February of this year she was a witness against defender at Burslam (Stafford) Assizes on a charge of bigamy. He was convicted, and sentenced to six mouths' imprisonment.

SNOWDROP DAY AT KILMARNOCK.

Kilmarnock, Saturday Night.

This was Snowdrop Day at Kilmarnock, when a street collection was taken on behalf of the Kilmarnock War Work Parties. The organising work was undertaken by the Joint Political (War Funds) Committee on behalf of Mrs Findlay Hamilton of Carnell.

The lady teachers in the various schools of the town sold bunches of the little flower at the street corners, and the female employees in the Saxone Shoe Factory made house-to-house sales.

A party of local gentlemen, termed "The Follies," dressed in character costume, visited the football match at Rugby Park in the afternoon and the various places of amusement during the evening.

The Joint Political Committee have, since the war started, raised between six and seven thousand pounds on behalf of various funds, and prospective functions are an entertainment on behalf of the Dick Institute Red Cross Auxiliary Hospital, flag days for Roumania and the local battalion of the Volunteers, and a garden fete at the Dean in June.

FOR BLIND AND LIMBLESS SOLDIERS.

Sanquhar, Saturday.

Last night a company of local ladies gave a variety entertainment in the Public Hall on behalf of our blind and limbless soldiers, and the function was very successful, fully £25 being raised. The sum of £30 was realised from a whist drive in Kirkconnel for the limbless soldiers and sailors and during the week the pupils of Sanquhar Public School raised the handsome sum of £12 for the British and Foreign Sailors' Fund.

DOMESTIC QUARREL OVER WALL ORNAMENT.

Greenock, Saturday.

Patrick Hutton, carter, has apparently tastes in the matter of home decoration. He appeared at the Police Court to-day on a charge of committing an assault on his wife.

The Fiscal recounted the circumstances of the case, and stated that the quarrel arose over the hanging of an ornament on the wall.

A penalty of 40s, or twenty days, was imposed.

MUNITION WORKERS DOING THEIR BIT ON CLYDESIDE.

DUNDEE LADY'S ADVENTURES.

NIGHT AND DAY IN SOUND OF GUNS.

TOUCHING TRIBUTE TO WOUNDED MEN.

"I DON'T want to talk about myself or the small part I may have played in the war across the Channel, but my heart swells with pride at the thought of the unparalleled valour and self-sacrifice of the splendid men who fight for our King and Empire."

As Sister Ann Doctor Allan, of the Canadian Army Medical Corps, addressed those words to a representative of the "Post Sunday Special" her voice and eyes betrayed the sincerity of her admiration for our gallant soldiers. She manifested no desire to refer to the fact that only a few days have elapsed since she was presented by the King at Buckingham Palace with the Royal Red Cross Medal for valuable services rendered to the armies in the field.

Sister Allan is a Dundee lady, who emigrated to Canada about eleven years ago, where she studied and practised as a nurse at Regina and Halifax. At the latter place she went through a course of training as a military nurse prior to the outbreak of war, and within a few hours of the starting of the conflict she offered her services, and was accepted.

Crossing with the first Canadian contingent, Sister Allan spent a few months in England, and then went over to France, where she acted as assistant matron at a base hospital. Since last October she has lived night and day within sound of the guns in her capacity as matron of a casualty clearing station, which is situated less than three miles behind the firing line.

"If the folks at home could only know how stoically our fighting lads endure their sufferings, I think the majority would be inclined to shake hands with every wounded man they chanced to meet," continued Sister Allan enthusiastically.

"At our clearing station, because of its proximity to the firing line, we deal with many of the worst cases. In fact, the wounded who are in condition to travel seldom stay with us for more than a day. They are sent down to the base hospital at the earliest possible moment.

DEATH HAS NO TERRORS.

"Those who remain are the poor boys who lie within the shadow of the valley of death. No words of mine can depict the noble courage with which those torn and shattered heroes bear their agony. Hundreds of men have passed through my hands, and never yet have I met one who bemoaned his fate.

"Literally, they grin and bear it. I will give you an instance of what I mean. About a month ago two Irishmen were brought to our hospital. One of them had been badly wounded in the face, and to such an extent that any beauty he might ever have been able to boast about was totally obliterated.

"His companion in affliction suddenly sat up in bed and, gazing fixedly at his fellow-countryman, declared in a disgusted tone of voice—'That's the worst ov them chape faces; they're so aisily damaged'!

"You see, Tommy never misses a chance to crack a joke, and not even the imminent presence of the Grim Reaper himself can serve to make him glum or fill his soul with black despair.

"Of a truth it can be said of them that they meet death with a smile. Many a soldier has beckoned me to his bedside just to tell me that he knows he is about to die. And they speak concerning the momentous change quite calmly. It is simply wonderful the way our boys sink into their last long sleep. They seem to close their eyes like children tired of their play. That is the most accurate simile I can employ.

"Nor have I ever tended a dying soldier who was troubled with remorse or vain regrets as the end drew near. In this respect they differ greatly from patients I have nursed in civil life.

"In a word, to the man who has fought for his country death appears robbed of all its terrors. The greatness of his sacrifice blots out the mistakes of the past over which, in other circumstances, he might worry and fret. The knowledge that he has fought a good fight is with him—a glorious presence that lights his spirit into the Great Beyond.

"I sometimes think that if the loved ones of those who have died in France could realise what I have been trying to tell you their grief would be lessened. Personally, I never appreciated to the full the meaning of that beautiful passage—'O, death, where is thy sting? O, grave, where is thy victory?'—until duty led me to minister to the needs of some of our matchless warriors."

WOUNDED ARE "TAGGED."

After paying this fine tribute to the greatness of our fighting men, Sister Allan spoke in praise of the Red Cross arrangements for the treatment of the wounded.

"When a man is picked up on the battlefield he is conveyed to the nearest dressing station, and 'tagged.' This tag takes the form of a card, and if the man is dangerously wounded the card has a red border

POLICEMAN CHARGED WITH MURDER.

SOBS THROUGHOUT THE TRIAL.

Sensational Allegations.

Belfast, Saturday.

There was a sensation in the Belfast Police Court when Sergeant Crawford, of the Royal Irish Constabulary, was placed in the dock on the charge of having wilfully murdered his wife, Ellen Jane Crawford.

Since the tragedy, which occurred two months ago, the sergeant had been a patient in the Mater Hospital, Belfast, suffering from a severe wound in the throat, which was alleged to have been self-inflicted. Very few people were aware of the fact that he had recovered sufficiently to be able to attend Court, and consequently the attendance in the public gallery was only normal.

It was, indeed, a pathetic sight to see a splendidly-built man, who himself had acted as dock-sergeant for a number of years, standing himself on the same spot to which he had escorted numerous prisoners. Being intimately acquainted, not only with the Magistrates on the Bench, but with all the Court officials, Sergeant Crawford obviously felt his position very keenly.

A Shocking Discovery.

The tragedy was enacted under circumstances of a very pathetic character. The Crawford children had gone to see a performance of the pantomime "Cinderella," and returned in the happiest of spirits to make a shocking discovery. Lying on the kitchen floor were their father and mother, bleeding copiously from severe wounds to their throats.

The poor children were destined never to hear the sound of their mother's voice again, for although her body was still warm she was sleeping her last long sleep. The children's father was lying a few feet apart from his dead wife, and was hovering on the border line between life and death.

Just after the tragedy a sensational letter addressed by the sergeant to the Belfast Coroner (Dr James Graham) was found in the former's drawer in the police office. In the course of the letter he made serious allegations against his wife's moral character. The letter contained the following:—"One woman is enough for any man, and too much for me."

A Sad Spectacle.

The sergeant, on being placed in the dock, presented a pitiable appearance. He was sobbing in a heart-broken fashion, and applied a handkerchief to wipe the tears from his eyes. He was assisted to a seat, on which he sat with bowed head.

District-Inspector Gerity stated that when he charged the accused with having murdered his wife Sergeant Crawford replied—"I never did it. Is she dead? I was sitting in the kitchen when she put her arm around my neck and gave me a jag." The accused man could add nothing to these words, as he broke down and sobbed bitterly.

Mr Graham, who defended Crawford, said it was one of the saddest cases he had ever known. It was quite evident from the condition of the accused that he was not in a position to give any instructions to his solicitor.

District-Inspector Gerity applied for a remand for a week, and this was granted by Mr Nagle, R.M.

The sergeant, who sobbed throughout the short proceedings, had to be assisted from the dock by two policemen.

ROTHESAY HAIRDRESSER KILLED IN ACTION.

Rothesay, Saturday.

News has just been received that a well-known Rothesay man, Private Dugald Weir, Machine Gun Section, Cameron Highlanders, has been killed in action in France.

Prior to enlisting about a year ago, Private Weir, who was about thirty years of age, carried on business as a hairdresser in High Street, and was also well known as a breeder and exhibitor of fox terrier dogs.

He was a brother-in-law of Bailie Hill, the popular secretary of the Bute Branch of the Red Cross Society.

DUNDEE LADY'S ADVENTURES—Con.

On this card are written the numbers of the stretcher-bearers, who carried him from the field, the nature of his wounds, and the quantity of morphine—if any—which he has been given. A 'T,' marked with an indelible pencil on his forehead, indicates that he has received the anti-tetanus serum.

"In fact, when he eventually reaches the base hospital the identity of every person who aided him in any way can be established from the written information on the card. Should he have been supplied with a hot-water bottle that injured the skin the doctors would not experience the slightest difficulty in placing the blame upon the proper party. It is a marvellous system, and one that secures for every wounded soldier the very best care and attention."

Questioned as to what the boys think about the war, and its possible duration, Sister Allan replied that all were absolutely confident of victory, and that the majority of the men she had met felt that the matter would be settled beyond shadow of doubt this year.

INTRODUCED TO ROYALTY.

"Were you nervous on the occasion of your meeting with the King?"

"No, I can't say I was a bit nervous," replied Sister Allan with a smile. "I received the impression that His Majesty was a most affable gentleman, and that he did his utmost to make us all feel at our ease.

"We were each introduced to the King, who was attended by a guard of honour composed of Indians. After shaking hands the King asked me where I had been stationed.

"Then His Majesty, as he pinned on my medal said—'I am very pleased to decorate you with the Royal Red Cross Medal.'

"I bowed and withdrew, and that was all there was to it, as the Canadians are in the habit of saying.

"I also had the pleasure of being introduced to Queen Alexandra at Marlborough House, who presented me with a book and a picture of herself. It was the first time I had seen Queen Alexandra, and I carried away with me the conviction that she was very beautiful and very charming."

WESTPHALIAN "COAL KING."

HIS ACTIVITIES IN GLASCOW.

"GERMAN APOSTLE OF PEACE."

(By a Glasgow Business Man Who Knows Him.)

What type of man is this German "Coal King," Hugo Stinnes, whose name has figured so prominently in the Prize Court in London these last few days?

The proceedings in the Court have shed a strong light on the financial activities of this Teutonic merchant prince. The Crown asks for the condemnation of three vessels—the Kankakee, the Hocking, and the Genesee, which were said to be German, though seized while flying the American flag. The ships are claimed as neutral by the American Transatlantic Company, of New York, of which the ruling spirit is said to be Mr R. S. G. Wagner, and the suggestion of the Crown is that as a man, named Jensen, Wagner's cousin, was concerned in Denmark in acquiring ships to carry foodstuffs to Germany after £3,000,000 had been placed to his credit by Hugo Stinnes, the Westphalian millionaire, and that Wagner's company took these ships over, the millions of Stinnes were behind the whole transaction.

Hugo Stinnes is no mythical personality. I have met him both in Glasgow and Germany He is an exceedingly wealthy colliery proprietor and ironmaster, ranking in importance with Herr Ballin, of the Hamburg-Amerika Line. An organiser of the best type, he is said to have taken a prominent part in schemes for getting foodstuffs and war materials into Germany through Scandinavia. Last year the Hamburg-Amerika Line Board was supposed to have been strengthened when Hugo Stinnes joined as a Director.

In addition to owning five colliery companies in the Westphalian district of Germany, Stinnes owned thirteen steamers, and he carried on business in London, Hull, Cardiff, Swansea, Newcastle, and Glasgow, as Hugo Stinnes (Limited), but, of course, since the war this business has been wound up.

Stinne's Visits To Glasgow.

I met and spoke to Hugo Stinnes several times in Glasgow. I should say he is on the sunny side of fifty, and would put his age down as forty-eight. There is nothing distinguished-looking about Hugo Stinnes. He is of a Jewish type, and would pass in Argyle Street, Glasgow, as a man connected with the jewellery business. Of medium height and stockily built, Stinnes has dark, piercing eyes, and wears a black, pointed beard which rather accentuates the suggestion that he comes of a Hebrew strain. I do not say that Hugo Stinnes was a frequent visitor to this country, but at the time he was developing his coal business he attended in person at the different centres selected for establishing branches connected with his German companies.

I am hardly surprised that no photograph of the Westphalian "coal king" has appeared in any of the papers. A very quiet, unassuming man, he never would allow himself to be photographed, nor would he go into any group of public bodies when a photograph was being taken.

Another peculiarity was that he would never hand over his bag to a porter to carry into his hotel. No persuasion on the part of his commercial friends in Glasgow would induce Stinnes to break away from this habit of carrying his own bag to and from the particular hotel where he elected to put up. And, taking a casual glance at this short, thick-set, black-bearded son of the Fatherland, one would never dream for a moment that he was a man of almost unlimited means. Herr Stinnes and Herr Thyssen are the two outstanding personalities in the coal exporting business in Germany, and although it was Stinnes' father who laid the foundation of his now collossal undertakings, it has been largely due to the marked acumen and ability of the son that the business has now enabled him to rank as one of the most wealthy men in the whole of the German Empire.

A German Apostle of Peace.

About five years ago a book entitled "England and Germany" was published, in which the leading politicians and business men in both Empires expounded their views as to the desirability of peace being maintained between Great Britain and Germany, and just by chance, while glancing over the pages of this volume the other day, my eye caught a contribution by Herr Hugo Stinnes. Here is an extract from the article written by the millionaire colliery proprietor:—

"If it is admitted on the one hand that England's power and influence would be lost without a fleet surpassing all others in numbers, it is clear that Germany's industrial position, and her ability to find employment for her people, would be in very ill case if inter-communication by sea was cut off. In proportion to her industrial development and her increasing coal export—the foundation of the future interest in navigation—the more hurtful would hindrance of her exports and imports be to Germany, and any attempt at such hindrance would inevitably be dangerous for those responsible for it.

"The only means of defence is a strong fleet.

"The same reasons that make it necessary for England to maintain a strong Navy compel Germany so to establish her naval power that even the strongest sea power must realise that it may not venture to interfere with Germany's exports and imports.

"As the one most interested, German industry is convinced of the necessity for a strong fleet, since her workmen would be the first to suffer from the terrible consequences of any stoppage of inter-communication by sea. Such a fleet is not a luxury, but a vital need for Germany.

I wonder what Herr Hugo Stinnes thinks now about that expression of opinion after nearly three years of the most terrible war in history?

GLASCOW SHELLWORKERS

ENTERTAIN WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

It was no ordinary gathering which met this afternoon in the City Hall. The staff and shellworkers of Messrs Wm. Beardmore & Co.'s Parkhead Works entertained 200 wounded soldiers, and right royally they filled the part of hosts and hostesses.

Mr Sam Corner, manager of the factory, presided at the dinner, which was given in the Saloon Hall, the guests there being the soldiers. The "boys" enjoyed themselves immensely. The girl munition workers were the waitresses.

At four o'clock there was an adjournment to the Large City Hall, where about 1600 of the Parkhead Forge workers were gathered. The Tradeston Temperance Brass Band and the Parkhead Male Voice Choir relieved the tedium of waiting by submitting a programme of musical tit-bits. Mr Corner was supported on the platform by Bailie Irwin and Bailie Kelly.

When the soldiers arrived in the hall they were greeted with salvoes of cheering, and one lively fellow set the whole audience in a roar by trying to cakewalk on his crutches. When he at length succeeded in performing this feat, no star of the music halls could have asked for more enthusiastic and spontaneous applause.

Among the wounded men were about twenty discharged soldiers, now employed at the Forge. These include two D.C.M.s and a Military Cross man.

It was a noteworthy gathering, and proved the patriotism, if proof were needed, of the men of Parkhead, and their ability not merely to manufacture shot and shell, but also to fire it at the Huns.

The musical director of the Alhambra Theatre, Mr Reid, arranged an excellent entertainment, thanks to the assistance he received from many of the artistes from the Glasgow music halls.

The programme was in itself a valuable souvenir of the gathering. On the front page was a portrait of Mr Sam Corner, and on the back page a photograph of a portion of the shell shop, with the women workers busy at the lathes turning out ammunition.

"HOLDING UP" POTATOES.

LANARKSHIRE DEALERS AND THE CHARGE.

USING SEED POTATOES FOR THE POT.

Hamilton, Saturday.

Potato dealers interviewed in Hamilton to-day are unanimous in declaring that so far as the Lanarkshire farmers are concerned the suggestion of "holding up" may be dismissed as ridiculous. County agriculturists, they say, have long since disposed of their available stocks. On the other hand the dealers assert that the supplies in the North of Scotland cannot yet have been fully exhausted.

The view held by the dealers throughout Lanarkshire is that an error of judgment has been made by those in authority in fixing distinctive prices between seed and ordinary potatoes. Farmers, they point out, are reluctant to part with their stocks when the prospect looms ahead of getting higher prices in the market for seed.

Suggestions are further made that certain families are purchasing seed potatoes at 3s 6d per stone and preparing them for table use, with an utter disregard for the future. The hope is expressed amongst the dealers that these "time-servers" will be sharply brought to task by the authorities, otherwise allotment holders may find themselves faced with the dilemma of having no seed potatoes for the ground they have so industriously prepared.

In sending provisions to prisoners of war belonging to the town the Dumbarton Committee spent £162 last year, and finished with a credit balance of £88.

On the conclusion of a litigation on behalf of the Reid and Prince Manufacturing Company, Worcester, Massachusetts, that firm sent to their Glasgow agents the sum of £1000 to be given in Glasgow to charities in connection with the war.

Hushed Up at German Headquarters.

The Astounding Confessions of Col.-Lieut. Otto von Heynitz, 16th Uhlan Regiment.

Statement by William Le Queux.

So wide an interest has been evinced in the remarkable revelations made by Count von Heltzendorff in his "Secrets of Potsdam"—which at the suggestion of the Editor of "The Weekly News" I had the privilege of editing—that it occurred to me that I might induce another German officer, who I knew possessed intimate inside knowledge of the private life of the Kaiser and Crown Prince since the outbreak of war, to relate his story.

Vague reports of scandals, of incidents of a remarkable nature in the private lives of the Kaiser, the Crown Prince, and others, incidents which were hushed up by means of elaborate German falsehoods, have from time to time appeared in the newspapers, but no actual facts. The true facts, however, I have, after a flying visit abroad, now been fortunate enough to ascertain—facts most of them of an extraordinary nature.

These startling disclosures have been made to me by Colonel-Lieutenant Otto von Heynitz, 16th Uhlan Regiment, who was a friend of mine in the pre-war days. This officer was German Military Attache with the Serbian Army during the Balkan War. We were together for several months at the Serbian Headquarters with King Peter in Macedonia, where I was acting as war correspondent. The "Oberst-leutnant" on his return to Germany served as aide-de-camp to Prince Adalbert, and on the outbreak of the present war was attached to the staff of General von Klitsing, commanding the Fourth Army Corps of Magdeburg. Later he was appointed aide-de-camp to the Crown Prince when he took command of the German Army of the Centre.

With his Uhlan Regiment he took part in the march through Belgium, the repulse of the Allies from Mons, and served with the Crown Prince in his advance into France, later on fighting against the British in Flanders under the Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria.

Like many another full-blooded Prussian, Colonel-Lieutenant von Heynitz became nauseated by the barbaric actions of his brother officers, their utter callousness in their dealings with the civilian population of occupied territory, and their entire disregard of the rules of civilised warfare.

On September 16, 1916, in utter disgust, he crossed the frontier into Switzerland, where he has since been detained at Ferney, near Geneva. Here I found him in comfortable quarters overlooking the Lake, and induced him to set down his amazing exposures of the vile acts of the Chief Hun and his profligate son. As, naturally, they were not always in the best English, he has given them into my hands in order that I may edit and present them to British readers.

They will appear exclusively in the columns of "The Weekly News," the real facts of extraordinary happenings which but for Colonel-Lieutenant Otto von Heynitz would never have been revealed.

WM. LE QUEUX.

No. 1—The real story of the famous looting episode of the beautiful French chateau by the Crown Prince—will appear in the "Weekly News," on sale Friday, March 16.

NEWSY NOTES FROM ALL PARTS OF SCOTLAND

By Our Special Commissioner.

A Pretty Scottish Bride

Lafayette.

Miss Nancy T. Gibson, Dowanhill, Glasgow, who has just wedded Lieutenant T. F. Smeaton, of the Royal Engineers, now with his regiment.

Irvine Housing Problem.

The housing problem has reached a serious stage in Irvine. Ever since the shipbuilding industry started there some time ago the demand for dwelling-houses has far exceeded the supply, and high rents have been the order of the day. To overcome the difficulty the Irvine Town Council have at last resolved to take the problem in hand, and have decided to ask the Ministry of Munitions to help them in the matter.

Keen Ayrshire War Worker.

Of the many war work parties in the county none is more deserving of praise than the Ayrshire Surgical Work Depot, the members of which now number 145. Since its inauguration Miss Cuninghame of Belmont, Ayr, has acted as secretary, and credit in no small measure is due to her for the splendid achievements which the depot has attained. From August to December, 1915, no less than 5000 bandages were turned out, and last year no fewer than 22,000 were despatched. Miss Cuninghame comes of a fighting family. Her three brothers are on service, while three brothers-in-law—Major Muir, Major Mott, and Captain Fetherstonhaugh, are with the colours. As Miss Cuninghame devotes her whole time to the work of the surgical depot, she may be reckoned as "doing her bit" in the best sense of the term.

New Millport Clergyman.

Lord Bishop Mackenzie of Argyll and the Isles has appointed the Rev. Robert Oswald Patrick Taylor to be rector of St Andrew's Church, Millport. This new Millport cleric, who also receives the appointments of Canon of Cumbrae and Vice-Provost of Cumbrae Cathedral, has been transferred from the charge of St Gabriel's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ILL THROUGH NEGLECT.

There are many people, including most women, who will take far more trouble about anyone else's health than their own. This sort of unselfishness is not really kind; it is not right. A person in bad health is always a burden in some way or another. To save others from becoming a burden, and allow one's self to become an invalid, is neither wise nor generous.

Science shows that nine-tenths of the ills which afflict mankind, and women especially, are due to poor and thin blood. This is Anæmia—too little blood, and blood that is not good. From the moment you realise that new blood will put an end to a number of ailments—rheumatism, nervous weakness, indigestion, bloodlessness, and the headaches, and backaches of the fair sex—you know that a remedy is in your own hands. For it is well known and proved that Dr Williams' pink pills for pale people are able to make abundance of new blood, and this blood the richest and purest, such as flows in the veins of vigorous, healthy people. It is important, though, to get the genuine Dr Williams' at shops, for substitutes do not help you.

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COMMERCIAL STREET, DUNDEE,
The Depot in Dundee for all Medicines at Wholesale Prices.

Acquisition at War Office.

The appointment of Mr Andrew Weir as adviser to the War Office on supplies has afforded pleasure to his numerous friends in Glasgow and the West. A native of Kirkcaldy, he is a man who has succeeded by means of sheer pluck and business acumen. When but 20 years of age he founded the shipping firm of Andrew Weir & Company, of Glasgow and London, and for a time owned a big fleet of sailing vessels. Mr Weir is an authority on finance, and has large interests in oil. In the equipment of Erskine House as a home for limbless soldiers and sailors he has taken more than a passing interest. Mr Weir has a son in the Flying Corps.

Enthusiasm for National Service at Ayr.

One of the most enthusiastic apostles of Mr Neville Chamberlain's National Service scheme in the West of Scotland is Mr D. H. L. Young, of Coutherland, East Kilbride. He is a prominent figure among the business men of Glasgow, being closely identified with the great carpet-weaving firm of Messrs James Templeton & Company. Morning, noon, and night, Mr Young is devoting his energies to National Service. He has just placed at the disposal of the Government, free of rent, his fine city residence in Woodlands Terrace, which will henceforth be known as the headquarters of the National Service Commissioners.

Rugby Internationalist Honoured.

Lafayette

This is a new portrait of Lieut.-Col. John Douglas Boswell, of Gorallan, Ayrshire, on whom the Russian Order of the White Eagle has just been conferred. He is a partner in the firm of Messrs Tait & Crichton, W.S., Edinburgh, a graduate of Oxford, and an LL.B Lieut.-Col. Boswell, I may add, is an old Rugby internationalist, and an ex-president of the Scottish Football Union.

More Sport for Anglers.

West of Scotland anglers will be interested by the announcement that the Bute estate has now thrown open Loch Fad, Rothesay, for rod fishing. This fresh water loch has been stocked with trout by the Marquis of Bute during the last two years, and I believe that—given the necessary skill, of course—excellent fishing can be obtained. The season on this new venue for the disciples of Izaak Walton was opened the other day by Councillor John M. Lawrie, Rothesay, and Mr J. C. Williamson, of the Wellshot Angling Club, and both secured well-filled baskets.

One of Scotland's Hardy Sons

Lafayette.

Second-Lieut. Eric N. M'Naught, who has won the Military Cross, is a native of Greenock, and at the outbreak of war was fruit-farming in Canada. Like thousands more of the hardy sons of Scotland, he rallied to the colours, and came over with one of the Canadian contingents.

Popular Larkhall Councillor.

One of the best known men in the West of Scotland at the present moment is Councillor Colin Campbell, of Larkhall. Since the outbreak of hostilities he has rendered valuable service to the dependents of soldiers and sailors by assisting them in connection with separation aliowance. Recently he was elected clerk and treasurer to the Larkhall and District Naval and Military War Pensions Committee. For thirteen years he has been a prominent member of Dalserf Parish Council, and holds several important appointments in connection with Poor Law administration in his own district. His work on behalf of our wounded Tommies is greatly appreciated.

Off to the Western Front.

While engaged in hut work in France there was no one more popular with the Tommies than the Rev Daniel Lamont, the minister of Hillhead U.F. Church. He has now been appointed chaplain of the Argylls and Gordons, and has returned to the western front to take up his new duties. The Rev. Mr Lamont is a Bute man, and since coming to Glasgow has gained many friends, both in his own congregation and further afield. I may say that both ministers of the Hillhead church are now on active service. Dr Adamson, the senior pastor, has been chaplain at Stobhill Hospital since the outbreak of war.

The Argyll Volunteers.

The success which has been attained with the Volunteer movement in Argyllshire is in a great measure due to the energies of Major Alex. J. M. Bennett, secretary of the Argyllshire Territorial Force Association at Dunoon, where alone there are now fully 150 members, who spend two nights a week at drill, and who are this week undergoing a full week's musketry training from a Scottish Command instructor. Major Bennett, who is a well-known lawyer and bank agent, took over the secretarial work of the Association a short time before the war, and his great forte has been in organisation.

The Friend of Girls.

Lafayette.

Among the many agencies whose members have rendered valuable service during the present conflict, the Girls' Guildry must be given a foremost place. For a long period the importance of this work has been recognised by the Countess of Mar and Kellie, who has always been deeply interested in girls, and is at present one of the most enthusiastic helpers of the Scottish Red Cross Society. She is to preside at the annual prize-giving in the St Andrew's Hall on Friday first. On this occasion several of the guardians belonging to the Guildry will be presented with medals for ten years' service, among the number being two ladies from Dundee.

The New Baronet of Monymusk.

I hear that Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arthur Grant, D.S.O., the new Baronet of Monymusk, is slowly recovering from the serious wounds he received at the front. The late Baronet was a fine Scottish laird. He was well acquainted with everyone on his estate. It is on record that the lairds of Monymusk commenced the planting of trees in 1716. So beautiful did they make what was originally considered an unpromising estate that one part became known far and near as "Paradise."

An Influential Personality in Shotts.

When a boy—or rather a youth—has the courage to start business on his own behalf at the remarkably early age of 19 he is certainly due credit for his push-and-go. This is what Mr Sommerville, J.P., the well-known Shotts ironmonger and iron merchant did, and he can now be classed as one of the leading men in his trade in the county of Lanark. He has been one of the leaders in all the enter-

MR AND MRS SOMERVILLE.

prises of his native town for many years, and the community have bestowed the greatest honours at their disposal by returning him at the head of the poll to the School Board, the Parish Council, and other public Boards. Further, he is the chairman of the Kepplehill Coal Company, Limited, Shotts; a Director in the Shotts Gas Company, Limited; a trustee of the Shotts Public Hall; and has held the presidency of all the leading clubs in the district. At the time of the late King Edward's Coronation Mr Sommerville was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the County of Lanark.

Unique Trip Round the World

In order to gain an all-round experience in his adopted calling Mr John R. Donald, as a young man, enterprisingly painted his way round the globe. In the year 1876 he started on a tour round the world, leaving London en route for Australia. For some eighteen months after arrival in the Antipodes, Mr Donald worked in the vicinity of Melbourne for a Glasgow-born painter and decorator, Mr Alexander Borthwick, and afterwards visited New Zealand. Next he sojourned to India, touching at Calcutta, and thence proceeded to San Francisco, where he remained for some time, subsequently returning home round Cape Horn. On getting back to Saint Mungo—in the year 1881—he returned to his old employer, and, a change in the partnership having taken place about this time, Mr Donald served the senior partner as foreman from 1883 to 1687, in which year he started in business for himself

A Distinguished Mason.

Mr Donald has distinguished himself in Freemasonry, being made an honorary member of no fewer than 25 different Lodges. I believe Mr Donald has visited the same Masonic Lodge in Rome three times since the year 1905. He is a Past Grandmaster of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, a member of the Incorporated Body of Wrights, and Burgess and Freeman of the City of Glasgow. He is also a member of the Institute of British Decorators, and has now the honour of being a Fellow of this Society

Congratulations to Lieut.-Col M'Donald.

Lieutenant-Colonel S. M'Donald, D.S.O., of the Gordon Highlanders, will have the congratulations of many friends in Fraserburgh and other parts of Aberdeenshire on his promotion from the rank of major to the command of a battalion. A member of the firm of Messrs M'Donald & Richards, solicitors, Fraserburgh, he has brought his business abilities repeatedly into prominence, and has been several times mentioned in despatches. The fact of his having won the Distinguished Service Order is the best evidence of his bravery and skill on the field. He is ever on the alert.

A Man of Push and Go.

I am told the British Industries Fair at Glasgow has fulfilled the most sanguine expectations of the promoters. In great measure the success of the undertaking has been due to the zeal of the secretary, Mr J. M. Freer. So far as the Second City is concerned, he was the originator of the Fair, and as far back as September, 1914, interviewed Mr Mackinnon Wood on the subject, and gained for the enterprise the support of the Board of Trade. In the piping days of peace a sum of nine millions a year was spent upon the great Industries Fair at Leipzic, to which British and Colonial merchants flocked in hundreds. Mr Freer has an iden if half that sum could be captured for Britain we should not be long in paying off the war debt, colossal as it is. He is therefore out to develop British industry and to lengthen cords and strengthen the stakes of our Empire trade. More power to his elbow.

A Veteran Scholar.

Lafayette

Here is a portrait of a distinguished scholar, Miss Louisa Innes Lumsden, LL.D., of Edinburgh, who has been long identified with the women's movement, and has written extensively on the subject. Although over 70 years of age, Miss Lumsden has been devoting her attention to the important work now being undertaken in the Scottish Women's Hospitals among the Allies—a theme on which she has been lecturing under the auspices of the Franco-Scottish Society.

New Brigadier-General.

Lieut.-Colonel Edward H. C. P. Bellingham, D.S.O., Royal Dublin Fusiliers, who has been promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General for special services at the front, is the only surviving brother of the Marchioness of Bute, and is now 38 years of age. The new Brigadier-General was severely wounded in the battle of the Somme while commanding a battalion of the "Dublins," and was personally responsible for the capture of a large number of German prisoners near Cuinchy. His younger brother, Captain Roger Bellingham, R.F.A., was killed at the front in 1915. Brigadier-General Bellingham, I am led to understand, is one of the youngest army officers to attain his present rank.

A Highland Wedding.

Lafayette

Captain Arthur Reginald Lovelock, Cameron Highlanders, son of the late Arthur S. Lovelock, Calcutta, and of Mrs Lovelock, Overdale, Eastbourne, whose marriage to Miss Kathleen Margaret, younger daughter of William Mackay, LL.D., Craigmonie, Inverness, will take place in St Stephen's Church, Inverness, on Thursday first.

Aberdeenshire Officers Honoured.

Brigadier-General Herbert Gordon, who obtained the additional honour of G.C.M.G. in recognition of long and distinguished service, has been followed by his nephew in the honours list, Second-Lieut. Laurence Ayscough Gordon having been awarded the Military Cross. The lieutenant is another example of the brave men who have come from our Scottish country manses, his father, the Rev. Frank Gordon, being the minister of the United Free Church of Durris, on Deeside. Another winner of the Military Cross some time ago, Captain Robert Forgan, is also "a son of the manse," his father being the Rev. Robert Forgan, Aberdeen, whose brother was minister at Durris for a number of years.

Argyll's Sheriff Principal.

The appointment of the Sheriff-Principal of Argyll, Mr A. L. M'Clure, K.C., to fill the chairmanship of the Greenock Harbour Trust, has given great pleasure to the people of Dunoon and district, who are so well acquainted with him. Although he has been so many years resident in Edinburgh, it is an interesting fact that in this connection the Sheriff is a native of Sugaropolis, his father having been a well-known writer there. He is an M.A. of Glasgow and LL.B. of Edinburgh, and was called to the Bar in 1884.

Edinburgh Lady to Wed

Lafayette.

Miss Elspeth Currie, second daughter of Mr James Currie, Larkfield, Wardie Road, Edinburgh, whose engagement to Temp.-Surgeon J. E. Phillips, R.N., has just been announced.

A Challenge That Was Accepted.

Mr H. Lightbody, J.P., of Wishaw, is one of the most notable Y.M.C.A. workers. Two years ago, when the institute at Wishaw was completed and the members of the Association were faced with an adverse balance of £2400, he did not lose heart, but set himself at once to the task of raising the required amount. In January last he received a donation of £500, and was also promised the last £100 should the in-between amount be wiped off. The challenge was accepted, and I understand only some £700 now remains to be cleared. Mr Lightbody is the vice-chairman of the Scottish National Council, and convener and joint convener of the Naval and Camp Committees respectively.

The Cheery Minister With the Bicycle.

The Rev. John A. Nicholls, North Esk, Musselburgh, who has been elected minister of Cambusnethan parish, is a man of abounding energy, and is known locally as the "cheery minister with the bicycle," for his visitation of the sick and other work is expedited by the use of his cycle. While spending twelve months in France as an army chaplain in camp and hospital he won grateful recognition. A fluent Gaelic speaker—self-taught—he was able to cheer many a wounded Highlander. Before coming to Musselburgh, where he has served six and a half years, he was for fourteen years in Oban district as minister of the joint parishes of Kilmelford and Kilinver. A Glasgow University student, he is the son of the Rev. J. A Nicholls, minister of Thrumster parish, Wick.

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Begin To-day This Great Prophetic Story.

Von Salzinger accuses the Prince of having betrayed the secrets of Borga to Britain. (A scene from next week's instalment.)

THE SECRET SUBMARINE

By RIDGWELL CULLUM.

An After the War Story Called by the Author "The Men Who Wrought."

THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY.

Prince Stanislaus Hertzwohl, who perfected the German submarine, gives away the secret of a big submersible to **Ruxton Farlow**, a young British Cabinet Minister. Farlow accepts the inventor's offer of a trip on board the constructed vessel.

Vita, the beautiful daughter of the inventor, had pointed out to her father how he could undo the evil of his former inventions by inventing the submersible mercantile marine.

Prince von Hertzwold takes Ruxton to Germany's great secret arsenal at the island of Borga. Here Stanislaus introduces Ruxton Farlow as his nephew, "Herr Leder von Bersac," to Captain-General von Salzinger, the military governor of Borga.

Von Salzinger resents being ordered about his business by Stanislaus, and sends an officer asking "Von Bersac" to wait upon the Captain-General. The Prince refuses to allow Ruxton to appear before Von Salzinger's inquisitors, and defies his authority by leaving the island there and then. In a steel bulkhead at the forward end of the vessel the Prince shows Ruxton the U-rays in active operation. This light reveals any solid body ahead—mines, rocks, any danger to progress.

The Future.

ON the way back to the saloon a further truth began to dawn upon Ruxton. Nor did he lose a moment in challenging his host when they reached the luxurious apartment.

"You have brought those cylinders away. May I ask why?" he inquired.

The Prince had seated himself, and was in the act of lighting a cigar. He desisted, and held his case out towards his guest. Ruxton helped himself and waited.

The other stared thoughtfully at the cigar which remained poised in his lean fingers. Then he raised his brilliant eyes, and the Englishman realised that the moment of lightness, of almost schoolboyish delight at the sense of danger had entirely passed. The eyes shone passionately, and reminded him sharply of the expressive eyes of the woman who had appealed for humanity with him on the brink of the Yorkshire cliffs.

"Why? Because I have convinced you of my submersible. Because for that reason I have determined to deprive the German Government of the use of my U-rays for an indefinite period. Perhaps for ever. Listen; there is only one man knows that I have an installation of that light on my ship besides ourselves, and that man is Ludovic. I have installed it with my own hands. The installation on the submersible dreadnought which you saw was the first effort in that direction, and the Government believe it to be purely experimental. Well, the experiment has—failed. That is all." He shrugged.

"But you will be forced to try again."

"And it will fail—again. Ach so! I would rather unship my plant and fling my models to the bottom of the sea, where they may help to light up the world of crabs, than that my Government should acquire one single added threat against humanity."

The next few moments were silently occupied in lighting their cigars. Ruxton had no words with which to answer him. He was thinking deeply, comparing this man's attitude towards the country which claimed him with his own feelings for his island home. He wondered what his attitude would have been had their positions been reversed; if he, as an Englishman, had been such a power, through his discoveries, for aiding his country. To his shame he was forced to the conclusion that this white-haired Pole was a greater man than he could ever hope to be.

The difference between them lay in the difference between a perfervid patriotism and the Prince's overwhelming love of humanity inspired by the abyss of horror into which a blind devotion to his country had flung him. This man had passed the great dividing line where the uplifted spirit renounces the claims of earthly passion in favour of the call of the voice of the soul. The cause of humanity now dominated every other emotion. Somehow his own fervour of patriotism suffered severely by the comparison, and so he found himself with no words in which to answer.

The old man rose from his chair and passed into his private stateroom. A few moments later he returned with two rolls of papers, neatly secured by tapes and seals.

He had closed the door. He was about to cross over to his guest. But in a moment he was held rigid where he stood. A dull boom roared out somewhere overhead and vibrated down the entire length of the vessel.

His eyes were wide and attentive, but there was no fear in them. Ruxton started up from the lounge on which he had been sitting. A thrilling excitement shone in his eyes.

"Is it a—mine?" he cried sharply.

The Prince shook his head.

"There would be nothing of us left at this moment," he said. "Wait! You can feel the steady throb of the engines. No, it was a gun. It was a bursting shell from one of the silent guns. They can see our periscope, and are firing across us—to heave-to. Hark! There goes another."

Again came a terrific detonation. But the vessel ploughed steadily on.

"Presently they will fire to hit our periscope and make us rise to the surface. Von Salzinger has gone further than I had dared to hope."

"Hope?"

"He will pay for this with his position."

"But if they hit our periscope?"

The Prince shrugged.

"It will make no difference. We shall not rise till it suits us. We have the light. Already we must be nearly through the minefield. Once we are through the mines Ludovic could make the journey seawards blindfold."

The Prince crossed over to his chair, and laid the sealed rolls on the table beside him. He did not speak. He was obviously listening.

Presently another sharp explosion sounded overhead, and his eyes lit.

"Ah, I thought Von Salzinger would not resist it. You see, he is a Prussian." He smiled, but his eyes had lost their humour. "That was shrapnel," he went on. "Its bursting is unmistakable. But he will not hit the periscope."

Again silence fell between them, and both smoked on with every sense alert. There was another explosion overhead. Then another and another. Still the vibrations of the engines continued. The two waited some time for the next explosion, but it was delayed. At last the Prince rose from his seat and passed out of the room. He was away for some moments. During his absence Ruxton never stirred a muscle. His cigar had gone out. He was still listening acutely.

Finally the Prince returned, and Ruxton's eyes put their question plainly.

"We have completely passed the minefield. We are also completely submerged," said the Prince. "We need no longer concern ourselves with Von Salzinger."

Ruxton drew a deep breath. He re-lit his cigar, while the other seemed to dismiss the subject from his mind entirely. The excitement of the escape had passed, and with the passing of it it had robbed him of all lightness. His large eyes darkened, and a frowning of his bushy brows gave him an appearance of depression.

Ruxton, watching him, wondered what next was to be the display of this extraordinary creature. Nor had he long to wait.

"You have seen at—Borga?" he demanded.

"More—than I was prepared for, in spite of all you and the Princess had told me."

"Yes. Tell me. Tell me about it."

Ruxton drew his feet up on the lounge. His dark eyes were on the white-whiskered face of his host, but they had become deeply introspective.

"I wonder how many years we have before it—comes."

"Perhaps—ten."

"Ten? Yes, I suppose so." The Englishman's eyes were full of a deep pondering. "And then war. War upon Britain alone. The rest of the world cajoled into quiescence through self interest and the memory of the horrors of the late war. Yes, a sudden and swift descent upon our overseas commerce. The wholesale wrecking and terrorising by slaughter. Every ship bound for our shores must be captured or sunk. This must occur simultaneously in all parts of the world. Then the complete ringing round of these islands, and a naval warfare against us with this new type of battleship, the submersible dreadnought. From a naval point of view, with our own submarine vessels, doubtless it is calculated that we might hold our own. But meanwhile our islands would be starved and our country brought to its knees. All our defences against submarine attack in the past would be rendered useless by the U-rays light. It is certainly a picture to intimidate the stoutest heart. And then? What lies behind this? I can see it in your eyes that—there is more behind it all."

The Prince leant forward with that swiftness of action which indicates a tumultuous stream of thought surging to find expression.

"Ach, that is so. That is all so. But you are right. There is more—much more," he cried, his lean hands tenaciously grasping the polished arms of his chair. "You have all talked about world domination. You have all vaguely known that that was Germany's object in the last war, and in which she failed. No one knows better than Germany why she failed. It does not need the Englishman to remind her. Since then she has changed her whole plans, and now they are more far-reaching than ever. She has abandoned Napoleonic for the ancient Roman methods. Germany, once she has wrested sea power from Britain, will live in a state of war with the whole world. The procedure will be an attack upon, and annexation of, every small State in turn. And each small State so acquired will pay its own bill. She will consolidate each territory as she possesses it, and so long as her war methods continue they will be bled white. So she will build up in every corner of the earth, and in the process she will prosper exceedingly, as did the great Roman Empire. And throughout this reign of terror, while the outward seeming of civilisation will increase a hundredfold, all spiritual life and the culture of the human soul will go back some two thousand years. We are this moment at the world's greatest crisis. One slip, one wrong move, and the great structure of the human soul will fall with a crash to the bowels of an abyss two thousand years deep. For the moment every seeing eye looks to Britain. For the moment, at this terrible crisis, Britain alone stands a bulwark that can save the human race from its tragedy. Salvation lies in the supremacy of the seas, which, thank God, is still in the keeping of your country. Britain must keep it, she must hold to it with all the bulldog tenacity for which she is famous. She must keep that mastery, not alone for her own security, but for the security of the whole human race!"

The man ran his lean fingers through his shock of white hair. And the action was an expression of relief from tension. A great light was shining in his eyes, a light which told Ruxton Farlow of the hot soul burning within. He knew, had known before, the truth of all this man had just stated, and the corroboration of his own knowledge through the lips of another fell with added weight.

He shifted his position. The urgency of all that had been said, all he had witnessed, now, as such things always did, drove him to considerations which bore actively upon the situation.

"Yes," he said, without emotion, "you have drawn a true picture. A picture which we, who care, have held in our imagination ever since the signing of that disastrous peace. Now I have witnessed for myself all that Germany is preparing." He paused, in deep thought, and the other waited anxiously.

"Let us consider now the risks and dangers of the moment," Ruxton went on again presently. He glanced up at the ceiling. The artificial lights were still shining. "We are still submerged. Therefore we are not yet in the open sea. A very real threat still hangs over us—over you. It will still hang over you when I am safely landed on my Yorkshire coast."

The shining light of the Prince's eyes was passing. His interest was not in his own safety. He shrugged.

"There is no danger for me. With Von Salzinger it is different."

"But you have broken the most vital of Borga's regulations. Can the German naval authorities overlook that? Will there be no question? Will you not be forced to produce your nephew to be confronted by—Von Salzinger?"

A look of doubt crept into the old man's eyes, and Ruxton knew that his warning had struck home.

"That possibility had not occurred to me," he said, with undisturbed simplicity.

For some moments Ruxton watched him in silence.

"How will you meet—that?" he demanded at last.

The man shrugged again.

"I must think of it. There will be a way."

"Just so. There is a way, Prince," said Ruxton, suddenly bestirring himself. "It is simple. Your real cause is the cause of humanity. Why not defy the claims of Germany? Abandon her, and yield your life to the cause so dear to your heart. Will you not land on the Yorkshire coast with me? A great welcome will await you. And—your daughter—she is in England already."

Having launched his appeal, Ruxton sat back in his seat and waited with a tense patience. Vast affairs were hanging in the balance waiting upon the decision of this man, who was perhaps the mechanical genius of the country which claimed him.

After a while the Prince slowly shook his head. And the lack of impulse he displayed warned the other that his decision was irrevocable.

"No," he said. "To do so would be to destroy all the possibilities of the future for our cause. You will see. It is equally simple. Were I to abandon my work for Germany in the manner you suggest they would know that I had betrayed them—and their secrets. All we have gained by the knowledge of their secrets would be lost. Then—though it matters nothing to me, for I do not value it beyond the help I can give to humanity—my life would be destroyed as sure as day follows night. No. I go back to my shops and to my work. I will meet every emergency as it arises. Should I fall to this man Von Salzinger I can always beat the authorities, and—make my escape."

"You are sure?"

"Ach, yes."

"Then prepare from this moment for that escape. You will have to make it. Of that I am equally—sure."

Ruxton's eyes were smiling, but without lightness. And the two men smiled into each other's eyes for some silent moments.

The Prince was the first to break the spell. It was with a glance up at the skylight overhead.

"See," he cried, not without satisfaction, "there comes the daylight. We are on the high seas. All danger is past."

"Immediate danger," corrected Ruxton.

"Ach, so. Yes, 'immediate.'"

The old man turned to the two rolls of paper on the table beside him. He picked them up and fondled them tenderly with his long fingers. They were to him something very precious, and—he was about to part from them.

Suddenly he held them out towards his guest. The shining light had returned to his eyes. Again had mounted to that splendid brain the hot desire to speak from the bottom of his heart.

"Take them! Take them!" he cried passionately. "They are my children. I give them for the world. They must grow and do for the world all that I have dreamed of in their creation. They are the plans, drawn and written in English by my own hands. No eyes but mine have seen them, and there are no others in existence. They are the plans of the U-rays light, which, by taking from them the cylinders you brought away, I have robbed Germany of the use of, and the plans of this submersible. Safeguard them as you would your life, and lose not a moment in forcing your slow country to construct. We have agreed that you have ten years, and in ten years you can do much if you do not let your country meanwhile sleep."

Ruxton took the proffered rolls, and held them a moment while his eyes rested introspectively upon the seals.

"And the price?" he demanded in a firm voice.

"The price! Himmel, the price!" The Prince threw up his hands in a gesture of dismay. "The price!" he repeated. "The price when humanity stands at the threshold of disaster! Ach! You are a true Englishman."

He rose from his seat and moved hurriedly across to his stateroom. At the door he paused and turned.

"There is no price," he said, and his big eyes were alight with a whimsical smile.

Back at Derby Towers.

Sir Andrew had listened patiently. His had been the grave attitude of a man impressed beyond mere words of agreement or understanding. His reading glasses had been thrust aside. His grey head was inclined towards his clasped hands, and his broad chin found support upon them. His whole poise was of the closest attention.

"It's like a—fairy tale," he said at last as Ruxton's story came to an end, and the deep, calm tones of his voice died out.

"Or a—nightmare?"

"Ye-es."

Sir Andrew swung round in his ample library chair and faced his desk. It was the movement of a man stirred out of his customary calm.

Ruxton watched his father closely from his seat on the settle under the mullioned window. He was seeking the effect of his story upon a man whom he knew to be typically British at heart. He had seen it all, had experienced it all. His father had not.

Presently Sir Andrew faced him again.

"Now your—purpose?" he demanded, with the air of crisp business. "You would set out to revolutionise our mercantile marine by the adoption of this—submersible?"

"As rapidly as is compatible with commercial interests."

"You mean that we are to take the entire risk of the success of this new departure?"

"It is our contribution to our country's cause."

Then Ruxton drew a deep breath. He sat up, and his words came swiftly, passionately.

"There must be no hesitation, dad. The submersible will be no failure. You must see this thing with my eyes; you must understand it with my understanding. What I would do is to take upon ourselves this first burden in the cause of patriotism. We must take the lead, cost us what it may. If the thing is a failure, then we are so much the poorer in this world's goods, but we shall have wrought honestly in the cause of our country. If it is the success I am sure of, then our gain is twofold. But even if the latter is fulfilled beyond my expectations it is not going to be the easy thing it looks. Listen. Hertzwohl believes that he can completely cover his tracks. I am just as certain that he cannot. Germany will discover the betrayal of her secrets. She will punish the offender in the complete manner of which she is so great a mistress. Then, by every art and wile of which she is capable, by every ruthless persistent purpose for which she is renowned, she will strive to undo the harm already achieved. We shall not be left to peaceful construction if my understanding of the situation is correct. We may have to face even personal attack upon our lives and upon our shipyards. It is with ideas of this sort running through my mind that I intend to lay the whole matter before the Cabinet. I intend to secure Government patronage and protection for this scheme. It is the only means by which we can hope to meet the attack which I am convinced will be forthcoming from our country's enemies. It is a lot to ask of you, dad, at your time of life. Did I not know the great strength of your character, and the extreme loyalty you possess for our country, I should have shouldered the whole of this burden myself. As it is, I know that with all your spirit you would have resented such a course. Therefore I lay it before you."

The older man made no attempt at agreement or denial. He sat drumming his fingers upon the edge of his desk, while his keen eyes twinkled in his boy's direction. He understood the earnestness of the idealist. He saw the purpose in every line of the strong young face. He appreciated the perfect poise of the keen, fresh intellect. And for the moment his mind went back to the glimpse of Paradise which had been his during the brief period of his married life. This son of his was that splendid Russian woman over again, and he was glad. But when he spoke his manner had undergone no change from his crisp business practice.

"You would have us build——"

"Two vessels of three thousand tons each and incorporate them with our coastwise fleet. Then two deep-sea craft of, say, six thousand tons. I would lay these down at once. Once their success is proved the plans can be laid open to all our shipping world. When the time comes the Government must be induced to foster the new construction by subsidy and by every other means in its power. But in the first instance we alone must bear the burden and all it involves. If disaster should overtake our efforts our justification remains. The days of Britain's pre-war ineptitude are so recent that even an active progressive failure would be a matter scarcely to be deplored. We must convince the world of the sincerity of our convictions, and to do that we must, if need be, risk our entire fortune. The danger we know lies ahead. In Britain it is useless to tell of it. Only our own actions can speak and carry convictions. It is our plain and simple duty to put our all into this thing. If it should bring us disaster or even simple ruin, I tell you, dad, I would rather spend the rest of my life in honest rags, with the knowledge that my substance has been absorbed in an endeavour to help my country, than claim this beautiful home of ours as a view-point from which to watch the triumph of our country's enemies."

"Ye-es."

The twinkling eyes of Sir Andrew developed a smile upon his rugged Yorkshire features. But it was a smile of sympathy.

"The most thoroughly unbusiness-like transaction I was ever asked to countenance," he observed drily. "This sort of thing, as you have suggested, has come rather late in my life. But it only makes me regret my years. But tell me again of this man. His genius, his curious attitude of mind, have left me rather breathless. This sort of thing in a German——"

"Pole. There is not a drop of German blood in his veins." Ruxton caught eagerly at the opportunity of the man's defence. "His attitude, his personality, has left you no more breathless than it has left me, Dad. I have spent nearly a week in his company, a week spent in contact with the greatest mind it has ever been my good fortune to encounter. Nor do I think the mind is greater than the soul. Oh, yes, I know what the unthinking would say. They would think and speak of treachery. They would spurn the creature who could betray the country which claims him, the country which has bestowed wealth and rank upon him. They would talk of loyalty and honour, and so in their shallow way prove the vile thing he must be. But I tell you there is something terrible in the demand for allegiance to a country whose sole aim is conquest in every phase of life—not the peaceful conquest which springs from the higher intelligence and purity of soul, but the brutal conquest of bloodshed, rapine, and terror. The man who can detach himself from the commonplace understanding of honour, the man whose courage is such that he dares to outrage such understanding in the cause of humanity, is something approaching my understanding of a demi-god. If Prince von Hertzwohl is a traitor, then I would gladly be branded in a like manner."

"And you believe this man's life will pay for his—for what he has done?"

"I am certain of it."

Look out for another instalment of this story next week.

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LATEST FROM LONDON.

WHAT MAY HAPPEN AT ST STEPHEN'S THIS WEEK.

SOCIAL "ROUND UP" AND ITS EFFECT.

(By "Post" Special Wire.)

London, Saturday Night.

THE coming week in Parliament excites interest, and even some concern. Three subjects demand immediate attention, and any one of the three might conceivably cause the Government grave embarrassment. The matter of the Dardanelles Report will probably give rise to an acrimonious debate, but may end at that. But no one knows what is going to happen in regard to Ireland. It is understood that when the Nationalists return to the House Mr John Redmond will ask for two days for the consideration of the Irish estimates.

The Irish Debate.

The Government will offer no objection to this, but as the programme of Parliamentary business has been mapped out for some days there may be some delay before the Irish debate is taken. The vote for the Chief Secretary's salary will then give an opportunity to review the whole situation afresh, and it is possible that the Nationalists will not be greatly concerned in the interval to give effect to their threat of Parliamentary obstruction. The delay imposed has the advantage of giving the Government a little more time in regard to the question of a settlement on the lines of an Imperial Commission as suggested by Mr Asquith.

Futility of an Election.

Though there may be a postponement of immediate crisis, it cannot be denied that considerable restlessness begins to manifest itself in Parliamentary circles. We may have further evidence of this on Wednesday when the import duty on cotton comes to be discussed, though suggestions that the Government may find itself in a minority on this question are not taken very seriously in well-informed quarters. The plain fact is that no one wants a general election at a time when the war is entering on its most critical phase. Nor is it easy to see what a general election would effect.

An Abnormal Position.

It certainly would not settle the Irish question one way or another, and since Mr Lloyd George has not been able to complain of any open opposition to his policy an appeal to the country in present circumstances would be a rather chaotic affair, in which no one but the syndicalists, who would be very active, would be on any well defined platform. Nevertheless the position at Westminster is abnormal and artificial to a degree, and though Mr Lloyd George's enemies and critics have not thought fit as yet to unmask their guns, their presence at St Stephen's is betrayed in divers ways.

War Solves a Social Problem.

Hidden away in an unconsidered corner of the newspapers there is an item of news which throws a flood of light on one of our social problems. The London County Council has been making a periodical census of the people who are found homeless in the streets.

Most of these unfortunates are found sleeping on the Embankment seats, lying under railway arches, or seeking shelter under costers' barrows. The problem they presented has been the despair of every philantiropic body in London. Charity seemed the only solution, for everyone regarded these poor creatures as unemployable. Yet under the influence of the war they have all but disappeared.

A "Round Up."

The County Council's "round up" only succeeded in finding nineteen men and nine women destitute and homeless in the streets of London, and this, too, at a time when the workhouses are more empty than usual. The moral seems to be that the majority of these people are ready enough to work if work is found for them. It is to be hoped the lesson will not be forgotten when the war is over.

The Old Order Changeth.

The newspaper bill has disappeared from the London streets as completely as the baked potato man has done under the influence of the potato famine. Our eyes are no longer assailed with flaming invitations to impeach the "old gang," or with tantalising intimations that British troops are at the gates of Bagdad.

The newspaper boys hardly know what to make of it. When the new editions come along you see them hastily scanning the columns to see what item of news is most likely to attract customers. In the old days, before posters were thought of, the newsvendors were provided with printed slips containing a sumary of the contents, which they were able to show to hesitating customers. A formality of that kind would be impossible in these strenuous times, but an adaptation of the same idea might be useful.

The Musical Hats.

The quaint little yellow ducks which ladies have been wearing in their hats are apparently to be displaced by something which strikes one as inappropriate for the use to which it is turned. The latest thing is the "musical hat." The score is picked out with red cherries, and the lines are indicated by narrow bands of black velvet running round the brim of the hat. People can amuse themselves by trying to read the tune, but as only a bar or two can be shown there is not very much scope in this direction.

THE ATTACK THAT WOULD HAVE WON GALLIPOLI.

AUSTRIAN EFFRONTERY IN U-BOAT NOTE TO U.S.A.

BY MAURICE PRENDERGAST.

London, Saturday Night.

THE Report issued by the Dardanelles Commission is rather a different document to what we had been led to expect. Assurances have been given that the findings would completely incriminate or exonerate Mr Asquith, Mr Churchill, and Lord Fisher. Instead of singling out any particular scapegoat, the Commission has distributed its censures impartially between the War Council, the Admiralty, and the War Office.

The Report is a complex document, and has little to do with the actual conduct of the Gallipoli Campaign in itself. Its main thesis is the origin of the scheme and the division of responsibility between the political section of the War Council and its naval and military advisers.

But there is one decision we can arrive at. It is as choice an example of "muddling through" as we have ever been presented with in the course of our national history. The consultations of the War Council were conducted on such vague and indefinite lines the members arose from each sitting with uncertain and individual ideas of what decisions had been arrived at. The naval advisers sat mum at the Board, not opening their mouths until they were invited to, and letting the politicians have their heads. What use are expert advisers unless they advise?

The Attack That Would Have Succeeded.

The Board of Admiralty does not come out of the affair any too well. It seems to have allowed itself to be pushed back into a subordinate position. While the army was represented at the War Council by Lord Kitchener, an active expert whose opinions carried immense weight, the navy was represented by Mr Churchill, an enthusiastic but non-expert politician. Had Lord Fisher been First Lord of the Admiralty his experience and opinion would have carried as much weight as Lord Kitchener's. A great deal seems to have been taken for granted. For example, the silence of the naval experts was assumed to express assent. Mr Churchill's adoration of the Queen Elizabeth was accepted without demur. Lord Kitchener's dictum that troops were not originally available was allowed to pass without question.

It seems to be generally agreed that a strong amphibious attack, secretly and quickly prepared and carried through suddenly with vigour, would have won the Gallipoli Peninsula. But, as military assistance could not be granted at first, the "next best thing" was adopted —an experimental form of naval attack, which could be pushed on in the event of success, and abandoned without loss of prestige in the case of failure.

After this, the original idea of the joint attack was reverted to, but the one vital element for success—surprise—had been lost. The naval bombardments had awakened the enemy to the possibility of a subsequent landing, and they began to put the Peninsula in a state of defence. We found all the landing beaches well defended. A later effort was made to retrieve the essential of surprise by launching an attack from a new direction—Suvla Bay. It also failed.

Vacillation and misunderstanding between the members of the hydra-headed War Council seems to be the root of the trouble. Everybody had something else to say—and did not say it at the time. Had the supreme executive power been vested in three men, the Prime Minister, Lord Kitchener, and Lord Fisher, as First Lord of the Admiralty, we might have carried the attempt through to success. But it's no use crying over spilt milk.

Officers Who Should Have Been Called In.

It appears that the various witnesses are not going to treat us to further explanations of their conduct. The prospect of further interminable wrangling and attempts to shift the blame on to someone else's shoulders is not very inviting. One cannot help remarking that the War Staffs of the Admiralty and War Office seem to have proceeded on very casual lines. No definite scheme of campaign was prepared by either body of experts, and very little intelligence seems to have been supplied to the naval and military commanders about the Gallipoli Peninsula.

The strategy of the campaign seems to have been summed up by "Try it on and see what happens." Two men possessed accurate information on the subject. Rear-Admiral Sir A. H. Limpus was loaned to the Turkish Government as Naval Adviser in 1912, and, on the outbreak of war, he became Commander-in-Chief at Malta. A military officer had carried out a survey of the Peninsula. Yet neither of these officers, with their expert knowledge, seem to have been called into consultation. Admiral Carden may have privately consulted Sir A. H. Limpus, however. Taken all round, the public verdict will be, "The same old muddle through!"

Austria's Amazing Effrontery.

Austria-Hungary has delivered another Note to Washington this week, setting out the defence of the Dual Monarchy for its participation in Germany's piratical blockade. The arguments contained in this document are not novel. Germany's excuses are Austria's, and the result is an exhibition of diplomatic ventriloquism. The diplomats of the Ballplatz are simply puppets, "telling the tale" under the direction of their confederates in the Wilhelmstrasse.

The Austrian Note commences, as usual, with an attempt to fix the blame on our shoulders. It is pointed out that before the war we drew up a code of blockade and embodied its principles in the Declaration of London. As soon as hostilities began Great Britain began to throw overboard some of the more important provisions, and ultimately abandoned the whole Declaration, because it was found to be a barrier to an intensive blockade of the Central Empires. Neither Germany nor Austria-Hungary seem capable of grasping the point that the Declaration of London was never ratified by Parliament. Accordingly, it never became a constitutional law, and we were quite at liberty to reject its provisions.

Having attempted to paint our policy in the blackest and most perfidious of colours, Austria goes on to hint that Germany and herself are the only belligerent nations who have scrupulously observed the rights and interests of neutrals!

Here follows a more amazing piece of effrontery. It is remarked that the Central Empires hesitated for more than two years over retaliating against the Allies' blockade by ruthless submarine warfare. "Only then, after a long and careful consideration of the pros and cons, did they begin to return like for like and attack the enemy on the sea."

During the two years the Central Empires were coyly hesitating, the Lusitania, Arabia, Ancona, Persia, and legion of other mercantile vessels were sunk. If their policy was unsettled through reluctance during twenty-four months, all these outrages must have been mere ebullitions of high spirits on the part of the U-boat commanders. Commanders Hersing, Valentiner, & Co. do not seem to have been reproved and checked for these excesses, committed while the superiors were making up their minds.

Loss of Neutral Lives.

One of the more peculiar features in the Austrian Note is the attempt to explain away the loss of neutrals' lives in the sinking of shipping. International Law lays down that, when a prize cannot be taken into port, it may be sunk at sea, provided that the safety of those on board the captured vessel is first assured. Austria says this condition is complied with if a general warning is given, before a vessel sails, that she may be sunk. In other words, a verbal warning can relieve commerce-destroyers from making any exertions towards saving the lives of crews and passengers on the ships they destroy.

Criminals have sometimes given warning of the crimes they intended to commit, but, if the deed was actually perpetrated afterwards, the warning was treated as an aggravation and proof of wilful intent, instead of an exculpation. Austria and Germany seem to have the strange idea that admonition means absolution from crime and all blame.

Having set up all the skittles, Austria finally proceeds to bowl them all over by the flat assertion that neutrals have no right to interfere with the war measures taken by the belligerent nations! If this is so, why does Vienna send a Note to Washington with curses loud and deep over the Declaration of London? Why does Austria commend President Wilson for having uttered certain protests against the British blockade? If neutrals are to be muzzled and prohibited from making any protests, President Wilson has no right to object to our war measures, and other neutral nations have nothing to do with the Declaration of London.

The Arming of Merchantmen.

Germany and Austria want to play the old game of having the cake and eating it. While neutrals may not protest against any war measures taken by the Central Empires, they are at full liberty to remonstrate with us over our conduct. Having expended about two thousand words in excuses and expostulations, the Austrian Foreign Office winds up by telling the United States Government to mind its own business. The Austrian and German diplomats have so many excuses, they cannot be consistent within the scope of one Note! Like the monkey that swallowed the musical box, they can't keep still because of the tunes going on inside their heads.

The Austrian Note finishes with the old declaration that International Law does not sanction the arming of mercantile vessels for the purpose of defence. It is no use going over the ground again. International Law and the Prize codes of all maritime nations have always distinctly stated that mercantile vessels are fully justified in arming themselves for defensive purposes, and can legally resist attack and capture.

Nearly all navies owe their origin to the fact that, in time of war, the King requisitioned private ships armed for defensive purposes against pirates. America is determined to arm her ships, and other neutral nations may follow her lead. From 1885 onwards the question of giving private vessels guns for defensive purposes was repeatedly discussed in our Parliament without a single foreign nation making any protest. Between 1912 and 1914 about twenty British ships received guns, but neither Germany nor Austria raised any objection at the time. So it is rather late in the day to be raising the point.

American Ships to Carry Submarine Hunters.

The United States Navy Department appears to be very annoyed with Senator Stone, one of the daylight-burning "filibusters," for his indiscretions. Senator Stone blurted out the announcement that American steamers were to be equipped with submarine-hunting motor launches. These small mosquito craft were to be dropped overboard on entering the danger zones, and would provide an active anti-submarine escort for their parent ships.

I don't think Senator Stone has given away much information to the enemy. About a year ago it was announced that the American battleships were to be provided with two anti-submarine patrol boats, and motor launches have been carried from the States to Allied ports on the deck of steamers for a long time past. Russia has had a large number of these M.L.s built in the States, and delivered at Archangel in this way, so the application of the idea to American shipping was an obvious possibility.

The last British pre-war navy estimates just passed the fifty-million mark, and created a sensation in the way of cost. But it is one thing to order ships, and it is quite another matter to get them built.

Such congestion prevails in the American shipyards, builders say it is impossible to commence any further ships. The national yards are already full of work, and are running on day and night shifts in making preparations for war. The number of war vessels in hand and authorised for construction during 1916 and 1917 total 152 in the following way:—

	In Hand	Authorised 1916	1917	Total
Dreadnougts,	5	4	3	12
Battle cruisers,	—	4	1	5
Scout cruisers,	—	4	3	7
Destroyers,	12	20	15	47
Submarines,	26	30	18	74
Auxiliaries,	2	3	2	7

Of the 1916 ships, all the Dreadnoughts, destroyers, submarines, and auxiliaries have been contracted for. One scout cruiser has been allotted to a builder, but the other three vessels and the four battle-cruisers are still uncommenced. Private yards refuse to look at the battle-cruisers, and only offer to build and deliver these vessels in four to five years.

About a million and a half tons of mercantile shipping are being dealt with, and it is impossible to assimilate any new warships. So if America does go to war, it is probable there will be no attempt to commence new monster fighting units projected but not laid down. America's naval intentions look very imposing on paper, but it is very doubtful indeed if those intentions will ever be realised in concrete form.

The Week's Naval Losses.

Current war losses number one British destroyer (lost with all hands, and believed to have been mined) and the French gunboat Cassini, destroyed by a hostile submarine. Up till the end of last year the Admiralty always announced the names of our sunken fighting ships, but the policy has been dropped. The above destroyer is the fifth unidentified ship of her type we have lost within the past three months. Two unknown destroyers sank each other by collision about last Christmas, another unnamed boat went under in the last destroyer fights off the Dutch coast, while a fifth boat of an old type was lost in the Channel not so very long ago.

The official French message described the Cassini as a "destroyer" (contre-torpilleur), but she was really an old torpedo-gunboat built in 1894. About 1912 her torpedo tubes were removed and she was converted into a mine-layer. Her sister ship, the Casabianca, was also transformed into a mine-sower, and was lost in June, 1915, off Smyrna by the premature explosion of the 97 mines she was carrying. The Cassini also blew up after she was torpedoed, and it looks as if her freight of mines also contributed to her loss.

New Raider in the Atlantic.

The German Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung reports that one of the Vineta's armed prizes, the Puyme, is now operating in the Atlantic, and has destroyed twenty-six steamers, in spite of the pursuit of twenty British, French, and Japanese warships. The German journal goes on to say that the Puyme went into Rio de Janeiro, secured stores from the German steamers interned there, and got away to sea again, although an attempt was made by Brazilian warships to detain her. This story is improbable.

The Puyme captured the Danish steamer Hammerhus and sent her to Rio de Janeiro, where the Hammerhus started to load munitions from German steamers. An effort was made by the Hammerhus to go to sea, but she was fired on by the forts and surrounded by Braziilan warships. The Brazilian Government are quite alive to the danger of their neutrality being abused in this way, and if the Puyme ever attempted to use Rio de Janeiro as a base of supplies she would have been interned at once. Nothing has been heard of the Vineta (or Moewe No. 2) for some time past, or her armed prize, the Yarrowdale. The latter vessel may turn out to have been renamed the Puyme.

A Secret Submarine Base.

The Spanish authorities are about to proceed with the trial of Herr Meyer, the German Consul at Cartagena, and his accomplices Grom, Keller, and Wood, for their illicit organisation of a secret submarine base off the port. One of the latter three individuals is the captain of the German steamer Roma. When the U35 visited Cartagena last autumn, ostensibly with a letter from the Kaiser to King Alfonso, she tied up alongside the Roma and received fuel and stores. There is no objection to a belligerent warship receiving supplies in a neutral port, provided that she leaves within twenty-four hours. But the local Spanish authorities might have been warned that the Roma was up to mischief of some sort, and the gracious letter from the All-Highest, conveyed by a submarine mail-boat, was all a blind. Herr Boelcke, the brother of the famous German airman, has been appointed Consul at Cartagena in place of Meyer, who is to stand his trial. Even the Spaniards are wondering why so important a person as Boelcke should be appointed to so insignificant a post as the Cartagena Consulship. It is supposed that Boelcke is to carry on Meyer's submarine depot organisation.

LATEST COMMENTS FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS.

Which?

We are not in Gallipoli to-day, nor are we in the hands, either political or military, of those who took us there. It is hard to say which of these two reliefs is the more profound.—The Saturday Review.

The U Boat War.

The object of U boat war is not to starve England or force her to her knees, but merely to put pressure on England's Allies in order to bring about a desire for peace.—Vossiche Zeitung.

A Tragical Combination.

The Dardanelles expedition was a tragical combination of apathy, timidity, and disingenuous reticence, with presumptuous and ignorant energy. The politicians conducted the war while the professional fighting men stood aside.—Morning Post.

His Final Effort.

Only panicmongers here and politicians at Berlin can make something out of nothing. The end of the enemy's reserves is in sight this year, and the effort on which he is now about to stake the same is a final one.—Land and Water.

More Truculence.

We still desire to avoid war with the United States. It depends on President Wilson how the die will fall, but however he may decide he will not, whether he chooses peace or war, move us one hair's breadth from the path we entered upon on January 1.—Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung.

Look Out!

If we accept the almost universal view that this is to be a year of decision on land we must also be prepared for very momentous happenings at sea. Just now the German Navy is exhibiting signs of aggressiveness which may foreshadow big events.—Naval and Military Record.

What Churchill Knew.

The "main responsibility" is placed by the Commission on the shoulders of Mr Asquith, Mr. Churchill, and Lord Kitchener. Mr Churchill was guilty in the first degree. He misrepresented the experts and interfered in matters of which, as a layman, he knew nothing.—Daily Mail.

A Splendid Example.

Shameful as has been recent events, there is reason for hope, not despondency. In the same way as the democracies of England and France have brought their Governments to book when confronted by the world-crisis, so also Americans can "follow the example that lies splendidly before their eyes."—New York Tribune.

Russia Almost Ready.

Colossal military preparations have been made by the Russians, and immense quantities of guns and munitions are concentrated behind the Russian front. All the Russian armies on the Eastern front will open a simultaneous offensive very shortly, and the German and Austrian armies on this front will be very sorely tried.—Berliner Tageblatt.

The Carrion Crows.

The Americans are the carrion crows of the world, who have grown fat and rich from the most horrible of all human butcheries. The blood of hundreds of thousands has brought them mountains of money, but the most disgusting feature of it all is that, with an unparalleled hypocrisy, they and their President dare to allege that they are acting on behalf of humanity.—Berlin Voice of Labour.

Unmasked.

The great event of the week has been the unmasking of the Home Rule Movement on the floor of the House of Commons. We now see it as it really is, and not as the Nationalists when in England and addressing English audiences have pretended it was, or as Liberals have hoped against hope that it was. It is a demand like the German demand for the freedom of the seas—a demand for freedom to coerce North-East Ulster.—The Spectator.

Haig's Harrying Policy.

It is apparent that Sir Douglas Haig has not lost his opportunity to harry the retreating Germans. His policy is "push and go," and we should look forward with every confidence to the future, strong in the faith that our leaders and our men are the masters of the enemy, and that the summer of 1917 will not pass without witnessing a mighty change in the situation and in the composition and strength of the Kaiser's armies.—The Weekly News.

The Murderers' Challenge.

There is an overwhelming public opinion at the back of the President which will sustain him in arming merchant ships, and all the consequences of such action on his part. No casual statute of 1819 can stand in the way of the President meeting Germany's murderous challenge unless he chooses to regard it as an insurmountable obstacle, and that would be sacrificing the nation on the strict interpretation of an Act of Congress passed to meet a wholly different situation.—New York World.

No Cause For Surprise.

Now we need not be in the least degree surprised at what has happened in Ireland as the sequel to the dethronement of Liberalism in England. Between the Coalition and Conscription have destroyed the Anglo-Irish entente. In 1914, Democratic England called to democratic Ireland; and the two forces went to work together. Had Mr George ever put his political thinking into one vessel, he would have realised that, in destroying the one form, he was bound to alienate the other.—The Nation.

GENERAL MAUDE'S GREAT FEAT OF ARMS.

BRITISH PRESTIGE IN THE EAST COMPLETELY RESTORED.

BY GUY L'ESTRANGE.

(OVER "POST" SPECIAL WIRE.)

London, Saturday Night.

IN the absence of any event of outstanding importance in the theatres of the war, all eyes at the moment are turned to Bagdad. The swiftness of General Maude's advance has exceeded all expectations. Our expeditionary force in Mesopotamia is not a very considerable one in point of numbers when compared with the immense armies engaged elsewhere, and it was generally understood that the main purpose of the advance up the Tigris was to co-operate with the Russians in Persia and on the Caucasus front.

But the rout of the Turks at Kut seems to have thrown the enemy into utter confusion, and General Maude saw his opportunity of pressing forward, and took it.

What will be the result of this astonishing feat of arms?

Already, of course, it has had the effect of completely restoring our prestige from any blow it sustained by the disaster which overtook General Townshend. The news of what is now happening will ring like a trumpet blast through the whispering galleries of the East, and its consequences will be felt from Cairo to Cabul.

If the advance on Bagdad is not a mere demonstration, and we are able to establish our position in the city, the Turks in Persia will be in a serious position. Already they are being hard pressed by the Russians operating from Hamadan.

But at present there is not sufficient information available to estimate General Maude's chances of establishing himself in the city. It is asserted that all the regions round Bagdad between the Tigris and the Euphrates is capable of being inundated, and both rivers at the moment are presumably in flood. The fact has assisted us thus far, enabling our gunboats to proceed up the Tigris in support of the advancing cavalry. But what has helped us during the last three weeks may be something of an inconvenience to us now if the Turks open the barrages.

The political effect of General Maude's advance is also difficult to define. That it will create an immediate impression in Constantinople is a certainty. But Turkey is a strange country, judged by our Western ideals. There is no public opinion in the ordinary sense of the term, and the people are dumb, patient, and innured to hardship and food scarcity. To that extent the Ottoman Government will probably be able to sustain more hard blows than would the Government of any other Power against which we are fighting in this war. Bagdad may be lost to the Turkish Empire, but so long as there is a possibility of saving Constantinople the Turkish Government will probably go on fighting, and renounce any idea of concluding a separate peace.

Big Happenings Imminent on Western Front.

In the meantime everyone is waiting for the campaign in the West to begin. True, there have already been remarkable happenings on the Somme front, but everyone regards the German retirement on the Ancre as a sequel to the Somme offensive at the end of last summer rather than as an event belonging to the campaign of 1917. The policy Sir Douglas Haig has foreshadowed of striking blows, not at one, but at several points of the enemy's front, makes it possible that even the advance on Bapaume as a preliminary to pressing on against Cambrai may come to take a secondary place in the general scheme of the big offensive. In any case, the first moves in that offensive cannot be much longer delayed. The ground is drying up rapidly under the influence of the March winds, and it is for this that all the belligerents have been waiting for many weeks past.

And it really matters very little whether the Germans or ourselves strike the first blow. For there is supreme confidence that the power of initiative now rests decisively with the Allies, and if the Germans should commence the offensive, it will be quite safe to assume that they have done so, not because we could not forestall them, but because we did not choose to forestall them. That being so, our main concern is whether the preponderence of power which Sir Douglas Haig is able to command will be sufficient to ensure a real decision.

The Man Power Problem.

It is a healthy sign that the public is beginning to devote more attention to the question of man-power in its relation to the general military situation.

The campaign of 1917 has started auspiciously enough, but it is not the first weeks or the first hundred thousand men thrown into the conflict, but the last weeks and the last hundred thousand men thrown into the conflict that will really determine whether we are in a position next autumn to dictate terms of peace to the Germans. When this is fully grasped the vital importance of man-power will be appreciated. We learnt a week ago that Sir Douglas Haig had taken over another slice of the French line. Anything which tends to relieve the pressure on our splendid Allies is read in this country with deep gratification, and we dwell with pride on the fact that we are now responsible for a hundred and fifty miles of the most difficult part of the Western front.

Nevertheless, it is material to remember that this course is really forced on us by the process of attrition which for many months past the enemy have been steadily applying to the French armies. And any extension of our front tends to reduce the weight of the wedge which Sir Douglas Haig is preparing to drive into the German lines.

If we can do all this without weakening the strength of our own offensive, it is well. But we shall not know if it is so until the moment arrives to launch that last hundred thousand men against the German lines.

Since there can be no certainty in a war of this magnitude, there is sound sense in the argument that, while hoping for the best, we should prepare for the worst by setting on foot at once the necessary steps for calling up the utmost reserves of the Empire's man-power.

One has only to consider the extent to which our industries, and especially agriculture, are already suffering by the claims which the army has made on our manhood to realise that our own resources are nearing exhaustion.

A beginning has been made in this direction, but it has been with a faltering and hesitating hand. The disproportion between the number of bayonets we are actually able to put into the fighting line and the number of men on communications is admittedly very great.

There would be an immense saving if men at present engaged on non-combatant work behind the lines could be moved forward into the trenches, and their places filled by coloured labour. The problem is one of exceeding difficulty, but there is an enormous number of men serving in the army, or perhaps even employed on civilian work at home, who have had experience overseas in the control of coloured workmen.

> What is required is a man with the necessary organising ability and the necessary imagination to evolve this new machine in time for it to be set working in the spring of 1918. If that is done then indeed we might look with some confidence to the conclusion of a victorious peace in the autumn of the present year.

The Balkan Problem.

Apart from these more general considerations, a good deal of attention has been devoted during the past week to the position in the Balkans. The problem which confronts us there is very different from the problem that faced the Cabinet when the Dardanelles Expedition, about which all the world is just now talking, was decided on. Into the personalities provoked by the Dardanelles Report it is not necessary to enter here. Happily the events with which the Report deals have to do with the past. But the Balkan situation still has its elements of uncertainty. Complaint is sometimes made, nevertheless, that the Force at Salonika is not strong enough for offensive purposes if a serious campaign in the Balkans is to be attempted.

There is, however, much truth in what Mr Winston Churchill said on this subject in the House of Commons the other day. His contention is that in the earlier days of the war we might have hoped to have effected decisive results in the Balkans with relatively small armies, which would not have imposed an insuperable burden on our carrying capacities. Mr Churchill's view is that that time has now passed.

Apart altogether from the new strain which Germany's policy of super-frightfulness on the seas imposes on our shipping, Bulgaria's entrance into the war, and the opening of a free road to Germany from Constantinople, have immensely increased the difficulty of carrying out in the Balkans a campaign which would give really decisive result.

If Turkey were forced to sue for a separate peace, the situation would be changed greatly in our favour, and with the limited knowledge at our disposal no one is quite satisfied in harassing Mr Lloyd George and his colleagues with demands that the Expeditionary Force at Salonika should be reduced in order that a corresponding strengthening on the Western front might be effected.

This is essentially one of these matters in respect of which we ought to repose confidence in our rulers. The information at their disposal enables them to form a better estimate of the chances than any outsider is capable of making. Their estimate may conceivably be wrong, but even in that case we can only loyally abide by the result.

The Enemy's Plans.

There is still a great deal of speculation about the enemy's plans, but these attempts to peer into the future cannot now be very usefully pursued. Since Von Hindenburg has been forced to retire on the Somme front it may be assumed that he will endeavour to turn to such advantage, as is possible, the temporary derangement of the Allied plans which that retirement has occasioned.

But the position which presents itself to him is not one of his own choosing, but one which has been forced upon him by events. That he will endeavour still further to harass the Allied plans by striking a new blow in the West before he has to turn and meet the Russian challenge in the East is still firmly believed.

There are suggestions that he may launch a fresh blow at Calais or even attempt an invasion of our shores, but one is bound to say that neither of these alternatives are taken very seriously by military men, though their possibility is frankly conceded. But all this belongs to the realm of empty speculation.

> What is not speculation at all is the fact that the Allies have plans of their own, and will not be content to see the initiative go to the enemy. What those plans are may not even be hinted at.

But the forecast which Sir Douglas Haig himself has given us of what is in preparation affords sufficient guarantee that Von Hindenburg must be more fully occupied at this moment in devising means of countering the Allied offensive than in shaping new plans which the force of circumstances may conceivably never permit him to put into execution.

STRANGE CAREER OF ENGINEER.

DESCRIBED AS BIGAMIST AND ABSENTEE.

WIFE SECURES DIVORCE.

Edinburgh, Saturday.

Lord Anderson to-day had before him an action for divorce in which the defender was stated to have been both a bigamist and an absentee without leave.

The action was at the instance of Eliza Fyfe Taylor or Harris, 179 Blackness Road, Dundee, against William George Harris, engineer, sometime residing at 265 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh, but whose present address is unknown.

Pursuer (35) stated that she was married in October, 1910. In October, 1911, defender said he was going to London, but as she was in delicate health she did not desire to go. He took all the money he could lay his hands on, including that she had saved for the rent, and she had had to sell part of her furniture to pay it.

Did Not Go To London.

She discovered that instead of going to London he had gone to Cowdenbeath, where he got work. He did not send any money, and the inspector of poor for Dundee had him apprehended, and he was fined thirty shillings, with the option of seven days in prison, for having failed to support her. He arranged to pay her five shillings a week until he provided a home for her, but she only received ten shillings.

She wrote to his last address several times, but none of her letters were received. The last time she saw him was in October, 1911, and she knew nothing more about him till the war began. He was a reservist in the Scots Guards, and she sent her marriage certificate to the paymaster. He replied that defender was absent without leave.

Contracted Bigamous Marriage.

Later she found he contracted a bigamous marriage in Edinburgh. A charge was preferred against him in connection with it, and he was convicted. Defender had also been prosecuted for desertion, and fined £10, with the alternative of sixty days.

Pursuer also stated that defender had struck her several times and abused her.

He had never told her who his people were. He had stated that he resided with his mother in Defoe Road, Tooting, before he enlisted. She had had inquiries made there, but could get no information on the matter.

Lord Anderson granted decree, with custody and expenses.

AN IRISH TRAGEDY.

FARMER GETS FIVE YEARS' PENAL SERVITUDE.

Limerick, Saturday.

Extraordinary evidence was given at Limerick Assizes in a case in which a farmer named John Walsh was indicted for the wilful murder of Edward Coffey, also a farmer, near Kilbeheny. Both men lived near each other Bad feeling existed between them.

Coffey, who resided with his brother Michael, was returning home with two companions. When they had left him Coffey was attacked by the accused. Coffey's brother came to the rescue, and he, too, was attacked, being stabbed near the femoral artery. Edward Coffey was eventually brought home, but as he had been stabbed in several places he did not rally, but died the day after he had received the injuries. The wounds on the abdomen were of a shocking character.

The jury found Walsh guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

THE STRATEGY OF A BEATEN ENEMY.

NEW LIGHT ON THE GERMAN RETREAT.

EFFECT OF BRITISH ARMY'S RELENTLESS PRESSURE.

London, Saturday Night.

The Press Association correspondent with the British Army in France has sent the following despatch:—

The accredited war carrespondent is, I believe, officially regarded as "an independent witness of events," whose business it is merely to record these events within the obviously necessary limitations of censorship, and not to express any particular opinions he may form, or indulge in any prophetic speculations on the strength of his eye-witnessing. I merely say this because it is occasionally suggested at home that we do not always say as much as we might. This is a point of view scarcely fair to the war correspondent or their military censors. It is because we do not see so much that the temptation to be prophetic might easily become a source of valuable knowledge to the enemy.

A Game of Hide and Seek.

The present situation furnishes a very good illustration. It naturally appeals strongly to the instinct of the little band of news gatherers who, under the existing regime, have license to go practically where they like within our war zone. But, in the great game of hide and seek which began when the Germans evacuated Petit Miraumont and Grandcourt more than a fortnight ago, it is clearly of first-rate importance to keep the enemy guessing as to how much we really do know and divine regarding his movements and intentions. Experience has taught us again and again that in regard to things which we might reasonably conclude he must know perfectly well, he is either far from sure or else absolutely wrong.

This will probably read like an apology for sending a despatch which is neither very dramatic nor teeming with news in dealing with a situation that is assuredly pregnant with both features. The truth is there has never yet been a phase in this war wherein the war correspondent has been so nonplussed by inevitability as the present. And it is because he feels he holds a national trust, to tell people at home the truth, that he would like it clearly appreciated why he is, momentarily, less free than usual to do so. There are occasions when he is his own best censor.

Pressure of the British Army.

This, of course, applies only to conjecture, based upon definite knowledge, as to the future tactics of the enemy. It does not debar comment upon what he has thus far done.

> All the world knows now that the Germans have fallen back in the West because they could not continue to hold their line between Gommecourt and Le Transloy under the devastating pressure which the British Army was maintaining.

By this manœuvre they will undoubtedly temporarily improve their defence, check any plans for striking at them upon this length of the line, and set free a considerable body of troops to be employed as they may devise. But let it not be forgotten that, as we hold the outer bulge of the great salient, in following the Germans we shorten our line even more, relatively, and therefore also set free a corresponding bigger body of troops. When you straighten two arcs, the outer one gains most.

The retirement of the Germans during the past week has probably been at a much slower rate than had been anticipated from the extent of territory evacuated the week before. But it is well to remember that appearances may prove deceitful.

Retreat Little Advantage to Enemy.

The withdrawal of an army must always be a slow and tedious business; doubly so in such weather as has been prevailing over the Western Front during the past few days. What is going on beyond the line of rear guards, who are covering the enemy movements, must remain a mystery to the outer world for the immediate present.

Of course, the British High Command has a very accurate knowledge of what the Germans are doing and a most shrewd instinct as to what they further design to do in the near future, and plans are being formed accordingly. The enemy movement has certainly not come as a surprise. It has long seemed such a very obvious thing to do that, if there was any question entertained regarding it, this probably took the form of wondering when it was likely to materialise.

> I have found during the past few days a crystallising of military opinion to the effect that the retreat is not nearly so much an advantage to the enemy as was at first imagined.

Now it is realised that we are recovering a large area of territory without having to pay any appreciable price for it, and any time that may be lost before we strike a smashing blow at the new German defences may well be compensated for by the lives and time saved through not having had to contest the soil that is being yielded to us.

After all, to get the foe out of the land he has invaded is one of the great ends for which we are fighting, and, whether he goes back voluntarily or disputing every yard of the way, the result is equally making in the direction of victory.

The final issue can only be decided when battle has been joined upon the colossal scale which we are seeking, and the circumstance that the Germans are apparently trying to evade this trial of strength carries its own conclusions. Their strategy of conserving their strength and attempting to withdraw intact may be sound at the moment, but, coming, as it does, in the third year of the war and after their pourparlers about peace, it is the strategy of a beaten enemy.

STRANGE CRAFT AT BAGDAD

When the communication across the River Tigris is given up because of the rise and strong wind from the North, the "kufas," or circular boats, carry people across—each trying to take in as many as possible. One point is good about these strange crafts—they are not easily upset. The men in the foreground perform the duties of city water works, supplying the inhabitants with water for a very small remuneration.

LIFEBOAT SMASHED TO PIECES

WHEN THIRTEEN LIVES ARE LOST.

Survivors Cling to Rocks.

London, Saturday.

The official report of the circumstances attending the capsizing of the Salcombe lifeboat, William and Emma, and the loss of thirteen lives, on 27th October last was issued to-day.

The Board of Trade inspector states that a schooner went on the rocks, and the lifeboat put off to the rescue.

The sea was exceptionally bad, and when outside the Salcombe bar a heavy sea struck the William and Emma and turned her right over. Three or four of the crew got back to the boat, but were washed away again.

The sea was in a perfect boil, and one of the two survivors was washed away at least three times. The lifeboat drifted ashore, and was smashed to pieces. Meanwhile the crew of the schooner had been rescued by the rocket apparatus.

An attempt was made to communicate that fact to Salcombe to prevent the despatch of the lifeboat, but, it is stated, the telephone did not work properly owing to a branch of a tree having blown across the wires.

Use of the Semaphore.

The chief officer of the coastguard stated he did not think of using the semaphore to inform the lifeboat's crew that the schooner's men had been landed, but came to the conclusion that none of the members would understand this method of signalling. As a matter of fact, the inspector understood one person did. Under the circumstances of this casualty, the inspector adds, the matter appears to be more or less immaterial, but I am informed that the Royal National Lifeboat Institution is anxious that its crews should acquire a competent knowledge of the semaphore, and I would strongly support the view that instruction should be given in this subject, which might easily be carried out at coastguard stations.

Men Clinging to Rocks.

Two men were seen clinging to the rocks and rescued, but the remainder of the crew, numbering thirteen, were drowned.

In evidence, Edward William Distin, one of the two survivors, and now the new coxswain of the station, stated he still had every confidence in the old boat. He did not think they could get a better. He expressed the opinion that the big sea by which she was struck would have capsized any boat.

Mr Walter James Shaw, an artist, and a Salcombe resident, who was watching the lifeboat, made an interesting sketch of the great wave, known locally as "The Unlucky Sea."

It speaks well for Salcombe, the inspector concludes, that notwithstanding this disaster a new lifeboat crew has been formed in readiness for the time when they can be provided with a new craft.

THE JOB OF THE AMMUNITION COL.

A New Study of Life on the Western Front.

By BOYD CABLE

Mr Boyd Cable presents in this narrative told in "Between The Lines," another phase of life on the western front and of which few people at home have very much knowledge.

THE wide door of the barn creaked open, and admitted a swirl of sleety snow, a gust of bitter cold wind, and the Bombardier. A little group of men round a guttering candle-lamp looked up.

"Hello, Father Christmas," said the Centre Driver. "You're a bit late for your proper day, but we'll let you off that if you fil our stockin's up proper."

"Wipe yer feet careful on the mat," said the Lead Driver, "an' put yer umbrella in the 'all-stand."

"'Ere, don't go shakin' that snow all over the straw," said the Wheel Driver indignantly. "I'm goin' to sleep there presently, an' the straw's damp enough as it is."

"Glad you're so sure about sleepin' there," the Bombardier said, divesting himself of his ammoonier and struggling out of his snow-covered coat. "By the look o' things, it's quite on the cards you get turned out presently an' have to take up some pi'ls to the guns."

"Pretty busy to-night, ain't they?" said the Centre Driver. "We heard 'em bumpin' away good-oh."

"You don't 'ear the 'alf of it back 'ere," said the Bombardier. "Wind's blowin' most o' the row away. They're goin' it hot an' strong. Now where's my mess-tin got to? 'Aven't 'ad no tea yet an' it's near eight o'clock. I'm just about froze through too."

"Here y'are," said the Centre Driver, throwing a mess-tin over. "An' the cook kep' tea hot for you an' the rest that was out."

"Pull that door shut be'ind you," said the Wheel Driver. "This barn's cold as a ice-'ouse already, an' the roof leaks like a broke sieve. Billet! Strewth, it ain't 'arf a billet!"

The Young Artillery Lieutenant.

The Bombardier returned presently with a mess-tin of "raw" (milkless and sugarless) tea, and proceeded to make a meal off that, some stone-hard biscuits, and the scrapings of a pot of jam.

"What sort o' trip did you 'ave?" asked the Centre Driver. "Anyways peaceful, or was you dodgin' the Coal-Boxes this time?"

"Not a Coal-Box or any other box," said the Bombardier, hammering a biscuit to fragments with a rifle-butt. "An' I 'aven't 'ad a shell drop near me for a week."

"If we keeps on like this," said the Centre Driver, "we'll get fancyin' we're back on Long Valley man-oovers."

"Wot you grousin' about anyway?" remarked the Wheel Driver. "This is a Ammunition Column, ain't it? Or d'you s'pose it's an Am. Col.'s bizness to go chasin' after bombardments an' shell-fire. If you ain't satisfied you'd better try'n get transferred to the trenches."

"Or if that's too peaceful for you," put in the Lead Driver, "you might apply to be sent to England, where the war's ragin' an' the Zeppelins is killin' wimmin an' window-panes."

"Talkin' o' transferring to the trenches," said the Bombardier, putting down his empty mess-tin and producing his pipe, "reminds me o' a Left'nant we 'ad join us a month or two back. It was the time you chaps was away attached to that other Division, so you didn't know 'im. 'E'd bin with a battery right through, but 'e got a leave, an' when 'e come back from England 'e was sent to us. 'Is batman (servant) tole me 'e was a bit upset at first about bein' cut adrift from 'is pals in the Battery, but 'e perked up an' reckoned 'e was goin' to 'ave things nice an' cushy for a bit. An' 'e as much as says so himself to me the first time 'e was takin' ammunition up an' I was along with 'im.

First Impressions.

"I'd been doin' orderly at the Battery an' brought down the requisition for so many rounds, an' it bein' the Left'nant's first trip up, an' not knowin' the road, 'e 'as me up in front with 'im to show the way. It was an unusual fine mornin' I remember, 'avin' stopped rainin' for almost an hour, an' just as we started somethin' that might 'ave been a sun tried 'is 'ardest to shine. Soon as we was on the road the Left'nant gives the word to march at ease, an' lights up a cig'rette 'imself.

"'Great mornin', ain't it, Bombardier?' 'e sez. 'Not more'n a foot or two o' mud on the roads, an' the temperature almost above freezin'-point. I'm just about beginnin' to like this job on the Am. Col. 'Ave you bin with a Battery out 'ere?'

"I tole 'im yes, an' came to the Column after bein' slightly wounded.

"'Well,' 'e sez, 'you knows 'ow much better off you are 'ere. You don't 'ave no standin' to the gun 'arf the night in the rain, an' live all the rest o' the nights an' all the days in a dirty, muddy, stuffy funk-'ole. That's the one thing I'm most glad to be out of,' 'e sez. 'Livin' under the ground, like a rabbit in a burrow, with every chance of 'avin' 'is 'ead blowed off if 'e looks up over the edge.

"'I've 'ad enough o' dug-outs an' observin' from the trenches an' Coal-Box dodgin' to last me a bit, an' it's a pleasant change to be ridin' a decent 'orse on a most indecent apology for a road, an' not a Jack Johnson in sight, even if they are in 'earing.'

The Trials of the Road.

"'E made several more remarks like that durin' the mornin', an', of course, I agreed with 'im. I mostly does agree with an officer, an' most especial a young 'un. If you don't, 'e always thinks 'e's right an' you're just that much big a fool not to know it. An' the younger 'e is the more right 'e is, an' the bigger fool you or anyone else is.

"Well, the Left'nant's enthoosy-ism cools off a bit when it begins to rain again, like as if someone had turned on the tap o' a waterfall, but he tried to cheer himself remarkin' that most likely 'is Battery was bein' flooded out of their dug-outs. But I could see he was beginnin' to doubt whether the Am. Col.'s job was as cushy as he'd reckoned when the off-lead o' Number One waggon tries a cross-Channel-swim act in one of them four-foot deep ditches. The waggons 'ad to pull aside to let some transport motor-lorries past, an' One's off-lead that was a new 'orse just come to the Column from Base Remounts an' had some objections to motor-lorries hootin' in his ear an' scrapin' past a eighth of an inch from his nose—'e side-slipped into the ditch.

"'E stood there wi' the water up to 'is shoulder, an' the lead driver lookin' down on 'im an' repeatin' rapid-fire prayers over 'im. I may say it took the best bit o' half an hour to get that blighter on to the road again, an' the Left'nant prancin' round an' sayin' things a parrot would blush to repeat. But 'e did more than say things, an' I'm willin' to admit it. 'E got down off his horse an' did 'is best to coax the off-lead out wi' kind words an' a ridin' cane.

"An' when they missed fire, an' we got a drag-rope round the silly brute, the Left'nant laid 'old an' muddied himself up wi' the rest. We 'ad to dig down the bank a bit at last an' hook a team on the drag-rope, an' we pulled that 'orse out o' the mud like pullin' a cork from a bottle. It was rainin' in tons all this time, an' I fancy the Left'nant's opinion o' the Am. Col's job had reined back another pace or two, especially as he'd slipped an' come down full length in the mud when haulin' on the drag-rope, an' had also slid one leg in the ditch well over the boot-top in reachin' out for a good swipe wi' the cane.

Nearing the Firing Line.

"We plods off again at last, an' presently we begins to get abreast o' some position where one o' our big siege guns was beltin' away. A bit further on the road took a turn, an' the siege gun's shells were roarin' along over our heads like an express train goin' through a tunnel; an' the Left'nant kept cockin' a worried eye round every time she banged, an' presently 'e sez sharp-like to the drivers to walk out their teams and get clear of the line of fire.

"'If a German battery starts trying to out that feller,' he sez to me, 'we just about stand a healthy chance of meetin' an odd shell or two that's tryin' for the range.'

"We had to pass through a bit of a town called Palloo (the identity of the town is very effectually placed beyond recognition by the Bombardier's pronunciation), an' just before we comes to it we met some teams from one of the Column's other sections comin' back. Their officer was in front, an' as we passed he called to the Left'nant that Palloo had been shelled that mornin' an' the Headquarter Staff near blotted out.

"I could just see the Left'nant chewin' this over as we went on, an' presently he asks me if it's anyways a frequent thing for us to come under fire takin' ammunition up. I told 'im about a few o' the times I'd seen it happen myself, an' also about how we had the airmen an' the German guns makin' a dead set at the Column durin' the Retreat, an' shellin' us out o' one place after the other.

A Deserted, Silent Town.

"Before I finished it we hears the whoop o' a big shell an' a crash in the town, an' the drivers begins to look round at each other. Bang-bang another couple o' shells drops in poor old Palloo, an' the drivers begins to look at the Left'nant an' to finger their reins. He kep' on, an', of course, I follows 'im an' the teams follows us.

"'I see there's a church tower in the town, Bombardier,' he sez. 'Does our road run near it?'

"I told him we 'ad to go through the square where the church stood.

"'Then we come pretty near walkin' through the bull's-eye o' their target,' he sez, 'for I'll bet they're reckonin' on an observation post bein' in the tower, an' they're tryin' to out it.'

"We got into Palloo, an' it was like goin' through it at midnight, only wi' daylight instead of lamp-light. There wasn't an inhabitant to be seen, except one man peepin' up from a cellar gratin', an' one woman runnin' after a toddlin' kid that 'ad strayed out. She was shriekin' quick-fire French at it, an' when she grabbed it up an' started back the kid opened 'is lungs an' near yelled the roof off. The woman ran into a packet o' crackers. Good Lord!' house, an' the door slammed an' shut off the shriekin' like liftin' the needle off a gramaphone disc.

"An' it left the main street most awful empty an' still, wi' the jingle o' the teams' harness an' clatter o' the waggon wheels the only sounds. Another few shells came in, an' one hit a house down the street in front of us. We saw the slates an' the chimney pots fair jump in the air, an' the 'ole house sort of collapsed in a heap an' a billowin' cloud o' white smoke an' dust.

The Watchful "Eye" of the Enemy.

"There was some of our troops hookin' a few wounded civilians out as we passed, and the road was cluttered up wi' bricks an' half a door, an' broken bits o' chairs an' tables an' crockery. Fair blew the inside out o' the house, that shell did.

"When we come clear o' the town there was a long stretch o' clear road to cover, an' we was ploddin' down this when we hears the hum o' an airyplane. The Left'nant squints up, an' 'It's a Tawb,' he sez.

"'Beggin' your pardon, sir,' I told 'im, 'but it's a German. No mistakin' them bird-shaped wings an' tail. He's a German, sure enough.'

"'That's what I just said, Bombardier,' he sez, which it wasn't, but I knew it was no use sayin' so.

"The airyplane swoops round an' comes flyin' straight to us, an' passed about our heads an' circles round to have a good look at us. The Left'nant was fair riled.

"'Dash 'is impidence,' he sez. 'If he'd only come a bit lower we might fetch him a smack'; an' he tells the gunners to get their rifles out. But the German knew too much to come close down, though he flew right over us once or twice.

"'Why in thunder don't some of our guns have a whale at 'im,' the Left'nant says angry-like, 'or our airmen get up an' shoot some holes in 'im. He'll be droppin' a clothes-basketful o' bombs on my waggons presently, like as not. An' I can't even loose off a rifle at the bounder. Good Lord, that ever I should live to walk along a road like a tame sheep an' let a mouldy German chuck parcels o' bombs at me without me being able to do more'n shake my fist at 'im.' An' he swore most vicious. The airyplane flew off at last, but even then the Left-nant wasn't satisfied.

"He'll be off back 'ome to report this ammunition column on this particular spot on the road,' he sez, 'if he's not tickin' off the glad tidings on a wireless to 'is batteries now. An' presently I suppose they'll start starring this road wi' high explosive shell. Did ever you know a waggon full to the brim wi' lyddite being hit by a high explosive, Bombardier, or hear how 'twould affect the column's health?'

"'I know of a German column that one of our airyplanes dropped a bomb on, at the Aisne, sir,' I sez. 'I passed the place on the road myself soon after.'

"'An' what happened?' he asks, an' I told 'im it seemed the bomb exploded the waggon it hit, an' the waggons exploded each other. "That ammunition column," I sez, "went off like a packet o' crackers, one waggon after the other. An' when we came up, all that was left o' that column was a reek o' sulphur an' a hole in the road."

"'That's cheerful,' sez the Left'nant. 'With us loaded down to the gunn'l wi' lyddite, an' the prospect o' being a target for every German gun within range o' this road.' He fidgeted in his saddle a bit, an' then, 'I suppose,' he sez, 'they'll calculate our pace an' the distance we've moved since this airman saw us, an' they'll shell the section o' road just ahead of us now to glory. I'd halt for a bit just to cheat 'em, for they'll shoot by the map without seein' us. But that requisition for lyddite was urgent, wasn't it?'

"I told him it was so, an' the battery captain had told me to get it in quick to the column."

The Shell-Swept Road.

"'Then we'll just have to push on an' chance it,' sez the Left'nant, 'though I must own I do hate being made a helpless runnin'-deer target to every German gunner that likes to coco-nut shy at me. Like a

"We plodded on, the Left'nant spurrin' his horse on, and reinin' him back, an' cockin' his ear for the first shell bumpin' on the road. Nothin' happened for quite a bit after that, an' I was just beginnin' to feel satisfied that the Germ bird 'ad run into a streak o' air that our anti-aircraft guns kept strickly preserved an' that they'd served a trespassers-will-be-spifficated notice on 'im an' had punctured him an' his wings.

"But just as we rounded a curve an' came into a long straight piece o' the road, I hears a high-risin' swoosh, an' before it finished an' before the bang o' the burst reached us, spout goes a cloud o' black smoke 'way far down the road.

"'This,' says the Left'nant, 'is goin' to be highly interestin', not to say excitin', presently. I figure that's either a four-point-two or a five-point-nine-inch high-explosive Hun. An' there's another o' the dose from the same bottle, an' about a hundred yards this way along the road. I dunno how their high-explosive will mix wi' ours, but if they get one direct hit on a waggon we'll know all about it pretty quick. A Brock's Crystal Palace firework show won't be in it wi' the ensooin' performance. An' that remark o' yours, Bombardier, about a packet o' crackers recurs to my min' wi' most disquietin' persistency. "An' still they come," as the poet remarks.'

An Exciting Moment.

"They was comin' too, an' no fatal error. No hurry about 'em, but a most alarmin' regularity. They was all pitchin' plumb on that road, an' each one about fifty to a hundred yards nearer our procession, an' us walkin' straight into the shower, too. The swoosh-bang o' each one kept gettin' louder an' louder, an' not a single one was missin' the road. I tell you, I could feel the flesh creepin' on my bones an' a feelin' in the pit o' my stomach like I'd swallowed a tuppenny ice-cream whole. There was no way o' dodgin', remember.

"We'd a ditch lippin' full o' water along both sides o' the road, an' we knew without lookin'—though the Left'nant did 'ave one squint—that they was the usual brand o' ditch hereabouts, anythin' down to aix foot deep an' sides cut down as straight as a cellar wall. It was no use trottin' 'cause we might just be hurryin' up to be in time to arrive on the right spot to meet one. An' it was no use haltin' for the same reason.

"The Left'nant reins back beside the leadin' team, an', believe me, there wasn't one pair o' eyes in all that outfit that wasn't glued on 'im, nor a pair o' ears that wasn't waitin' anxious for some order to come, an' I'm includin' my own eyes an' ears in the catalogue. There was nothin' to be done an' nothin' to be said, an' we all knew it, but at the same time we was ready to jump to any order the Left'nant passed on.

A Strategic Order.

"The shells was droppin' at about ten to fifteen seconds' interval, an' we could see it was goin' to be a matter o' blind luck whether one pitched short or over or fair a-top o' us. They were closer spaced, too, as they came nearer, an' I reckon there wasn't more'n fifty or sixty yards atween the last two or three bursts. An' we was still walkin' on, every man wi' his reins short an' feelin' 'is 'orse's mouth, an' his knees gripoin the saddle hard.

"'Bang!' One hits the road about one-fifty to two hundred yards short, an' we 'eard chips o' it whizz an' hum past us. The Left'nant looks round. 'When I say "Trot," you'll trot,' he shouts, 'an' no man is to stop or slow up to pick up anyone hit.'

"Next second, 'Crash!' comes another about a hundred yards off, an' before the lumps of it sung past, 'Ter-r-rot!' yells the Left'nant. Now, some people might call the en-sooin' movement a trot, an' some might call it a warm canter an' first cousin to a gallop. We sees the game in a wink—to get past the spot the next crump was due to arrive on afore it did arrive. We did it too—handsome an' wi some to spare, though when I heard the roarin' swoosh of it comin' down I thought we was for it an' a direck hit was due. But it went well over, an' none of the splinters touched.

"'Steady there, steady,' shouts the Left'nant, 'but keep goin'. They'll repeat the series if they've any sense.' We could hear the blighters crumpin' away back down the road behind us, an', believe me, we kep' goin' all right. But the Boshe didn't repeat the series; he went on a new game, an' just afore we came to the end o' the straight stretch four crumps pitched down astride the road ahead of us about two hundred yards.

A Lucky Escape.

"One hit the edge o' the road, an' the others in the fields on both sides, an' one of these was a dud an' didn't burst. But we knew that the fellers that did go off would make a highly unhealthy circle around, an' the prospect o' bein' there or thereabouts when the next boo-kay landed wasn't none too allurin'.

"The Left'nant yells to come on, an' we came, oh, take it from me, we came a' humpin'. There was some fancy driving past them crump holes in the road, but we might have been at Olympia the way them drivers shaved past at the canter. We was just past the last spot the four landed, when I heard the whistle o' another bunch comin', an' my hair near lifted my cap off. Them waggons o' ours isn't built for any speed records, but I fancy they covered more ground in the next few seconds than ever they've done before.

"But goin' our best, there was no hope of clearin' the blast o' the explosions if they exploded on the same target, an' we all made ourselves as small as we could on our horses' backs, an' felt we was as big as a barn all the time the rush was gettin' louder an' louder.

"Then thud-thud-thud an' crash! Three of 'em dropped blind, an' only the one exploded; an' it bein' in the ditch didn't do any harm beyond sendin' up a spout o' water about a mile high. Three duds out o' four—if that wasn't a miracle I want to know. But we wasn't countin' too much on it bein' miracle day, an' we kept the wheels goin' round with the whistle over 'ead an' the crashes behind to discourage any loiterin' to gather flowers by the way.

A Nasty Disappointment.

"An' when we was well past an' slowed down again I heard the Left'nant draw a deep breath an' say soft-like, 'packet o' Chinese crackers.'

"But 'e said something stronger that same night. He'd just crawled back to the column wi' his empty waggons, leavin' me as orderly at the Battery, an' me, havin' a pressin' message to take back for more shells, I trotted out an' got back soon after he did. I took my message to the old farm where the officers was billeted, an' the mess-man takes my note in.

"I got a glimpse o' the Left'nant wi' his jacket an' boots off an' his breeches following suit. 'I'd a rotten day,' he was sayin', 'but one good point about this Am. Col. job—an' the only one I see—is that you get the night in bed wi' your breeches off.'

"But if you'd only 'eard 'im when he found he was for the road again at once, an' would spend 'is night in the rain an' dark instead of in bed—well, I couldn't repeat 'is language, not 'aving the talent to 'is extent.

"'E was transferred to a battery soon after, an' I 'eard that when he got the orders all 'e 'ad to say was, 'Thank 'Eaven. I'll mebbe get shelled oftener in a battery, but at least I'll 'ave the satisfaction o' shellin' back—an' I may 'ave a funk hole handy to duck in when it's extry hot instead o' ridin' on the road an' expectin' to go off like a packet o' crackers.'

"Mebbe he was right," concluded the Bombardier reflectively. "But I s'pose it's entirely a matter o' taste an' how a man likes bein' killed off."

NEXT WEEK—The Signaller's Day.

Loading ammunition to be carted to the firing line on the Western Front. (Official picture.)

HOW CHILBLAINS, CORNS, RHEUMATIC PAINS, ETC., ARE NOW CURED IN THE TRENCHES.

Sergeant C. S. Turner, of the R.A.M.C., also advises readers how to remedy gout or other uric acid disorders, and bunions, aching, swollen or inflamed feet, produced by cold and dampness.

The various kinds of foot misery are simply indications of injured tissues, but there is really no need of enduring any such torture a single moment. We soldiers now know they can all be instantly relieved and permanently cured by resting the feet about ten minutes in warm water containing a tablespoonful of the ordinary refined Reudel bath saltrates, which will form highly medicated and oxygenated water. This softens even the worst corns, so they come right out root and all, at the first touch and all calloused places, blood congestion (chilblains), rheumatic or other swellings, aches, and inflammation quickly disappear. The feet being the farthest extremities from the heart to which blood must be forced, foot troubles are usually due to defective circulation. The soothing and healing saltrated water will stimulate the circulation, clear sebaceous matter from clogged pores, render skin active and healthy and prevent offensive odours or injurious effects of acid perspiration and shoe pressure on sensitive, irritated nerves. All chemists keep Reudel Bath Saltrates ready put up in convenient packets, one of which is more than sufficient to permanently end all foot misery at very slight cost. Although quite similar in composition to the waters of famous medicinal springs, the saltrated water is admitted to be far superior to any of them. Soldiers should try this refreshing foot bath after coming in footsore from a long march. Their newest, tightest boots become comfortable as oldest pair they ever had. A packet of saltrates is always a welcome present in the trenches. C. S. T.

NOTE.—Letters similar to the above have also been received from the following and numerous other soldiers —Sergt. R. Schooledge, A.S.C., M.T.; Corp. T. S. Wilburn, R.A.M.C.; Corp. Thos. Jukes, A.S.C.; Corp. Pitts, A.S.C., M.T.; Corp. Jim Sullivan, Army Physical Trainer; Corp. R. Charles, A.S.C., M.T.

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THE Sunday Album of Sacred Songs, classical and popular; arranged with piano accompaniment. Voice part in staff and tonic sol-fa. Post free, 1s 2d. W. L. Hampton, musicseller, Perth, N.B.

PERSONAL GOSSIP FROM STAGELAND.

Just it's twelfth week and still running—Tommy Trotter" at the Glasgow Prin-s Theatre. And there is no abatement of crowds which wend their way to this one of pantomime," to quote Mr Rich ldon's posters. Even on these bitterly ld nights of the past week I saw queues ed up such as one would expect on an ming night.

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Mr Waldon tells me the secret of his ess at this time is that the pantomime simply built for fun, and it is only tural that the people should go there for relaxation from the cares and worries of present time. He says he knows of ple coming not twice, but three and r times, to enjoy a laugh and to get free their troubles for a period. Some time April is tentatively set down as the clos-date of "Tommy Trotter."

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I saw Jock Mills at Glasgow Coliseum in new act, where he has the assistance of a ly partner. This little lady is Miss Myra rman, well known as a sweet singer by enters of the Clyde coast resorts. Jock d Myra blend their voices in several tune-l duets. And, of course, Jock still gets se his witty gags.

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Millie. Alice Delysia, who will pay her t visit to Scotland, opens at the Glasgow hambra to-morrow night. Three years o Alice was a chorus girl at the Olympia, ris, but since coming to London she has wn herself one of the most versatile ar-tes who have been in revue. Her long is comedy, but I believe she personally s a hankering for drama. Those who ve seen her in the film version of "She" ll have formed their own opinion of her rk in this respect.

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I do not think anything better has been n than the Carmen of Miss Phyllis Ar-hald, appearing with the Carl Rosa era Company at the Glasgow Royal. Her erpretation of the wilful, wayward gipsy s very strong and her abandon simply lightful.

This week "Rigoletto," beloved of the lian race, is the new feature on the pro-amme for the Royal, with Hebden Foster the tragic part of the jester, and Ed-ard Davies as the Duke of Mantua.

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FOR HER ONLY SON.

Liane d'Eve, who comes to the Edinburgh mpire, fairly took this country by storm hen she first crossed the Channel from La elle France, and she has maintained her opularity ever since. Miss d'Eve works rd on and off the stage with the e object in view of giving her only son a hance in life. She was married as a mere l, and after a short but happy married e was left a widow. After the birth of r baby boy she had to devise means to ducate him, and was advised to try the age, with what success we know. Her y, who has been trained as an electrical gineer, is now with the colours in France, aving volunteered before he was of age for rvice. This was in keeping with the mily spirit. Miss d'Eve's grandmother ed in Strassbourg through the horrors of e 1870 campaign, and her last advice to r granddaughter was if ever there was a ar with Germany to put on trousers and and fight as if she were a man against e Huns. ⊙⊙⊙⊙⊙

NEW OPERATIC PRODUCTIONS IN EDINBURGH.

Few conductors who have achieved dis-nction have been so catholic in their tastes Sir Thomas Beecham. This sympathy ith what is ultra-modern, combined with dmiration for the works of the classical asters, is largely reflected in the repertoire he company is producing at the King's, dinburgh. For the second week such idely divergent composers as Wagner, nd Verdi, Saint-Saens and Moussorgsky, uccini and Mozart are represented.

On Monday night he will present a Mozartian opera new to Edinburgh, "The eraglio."

Written by Royal command, it was an in-ant success, and was the foundation of the hool of opera that culminated in the ap-earance of Wagner. "The Seraglio" is ne of those masterpieces of art which even he masters themselves can only hope to chieve in their very happiest moments, nd the surprise is that for thirty or forty ears it has been neglected.

In "Tosca," the third of Puccini's operas hich Sir Thomas has in his list for hursday night, we have some of the most ntensely dramatic and effective music he Italian master has written, while or-hestrally it shows an advance on "La oheme," which is being repeated on Wed-esday afternoon, and "Butterfly" on aturday.

The other new production this week is aint-Saens' "Samson and Delilah." Our lliance with La Belle France is bringing he bright and scintillating school of France uch under review just now, and Saint-aens, with his virtuosity of intellect, clear nd concise grip of rhythm and all it im-lies in form, is one of the men we can ast afford to neglect in these days when evolution threatens to drift to chaos in ar-stic design.

For "Boris Godounov," which is also own for repetition, to ensure that the real ussian atmosphere was obtained Sir homas had most if not all of the scenery pecially painted in Moscow, and likewise or "Louise" the work was done in Paris. Altogether full sets are carried for sixteen peras, and not a single item of one is used or another.

It takes thirty-nine trucks to convey this ompany from place to place and two pecial trains for the company. The result, s may well be understood, is opera on a cale musically, dramatically, and spectacu-arly which as a standard is beyond ordi-ary commercial possibilities for the pro-nces at least.

RHEUMATISH-KIDNEY TROUBLE.

Rheumatism, backache, lumbago, sciatica, out, urinary trouble, stone, gravel, dropsy, re the result of excessive uric acid. Estora Tablets, a specific based on modern medical cience, are the successful treatment. 1/3 er box of 40 tablets, or 6 for 6/9, all hemists, or post free from Estora Co., 132, haring Cross Rd., London, W.C.

Shawlene, the whistling entertainer and comedy character merchant, who comes to Edinburgh Empire, is now 63 years of age, but he is still going strong. Singular that whistling as an art seldom gets beyond the milkboy peace-disturbance stage, and yet with such exponents as Shawlene and Arthur Whelan what a delightful art it is too.

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Bert Weston pays a welcome return visit to the King's, Dundee. He is a comedian with very original ideas, and I know that he is very smart in the art of impromptu gagging. He figures prominently on a very strong variety bill, including some other first-class turns

Met George Jackley, of Jackley and Le Sine, the other day. He tells me Brother Louis, who was the Le Sine of the duo, has been called to the colours, and he has taken on a new partner. The newcomer, who is well-known as a revue and sketch artiste, is Ian Lloyd Mackenzie. Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dundee readers will be interested to hear this.

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Bert Harrow, the well-known comedian, is now in the Royal Naval Air Service.

Miss Daisy Mortimer, the principal lady in "The Big Show," is an old friend, and will be remembered by many as the lady partner in Les Morales, the acrobatic dancing duo. Miss Mortimer has a clever boxing skit with George French, who was never better fitted with material than in this show, and the way she puts them up suggests Daisy knows something about boxing as well as dancing. "The Big Show" appears at the Glasgow Coliseum this week, and Miss Mortimer is sure to have a big reception from her many admirers on the South Side.

(1) Juliette Autran, Beecham Opera Coy., King's Theatre, Edinburgh; (2) Maidie Scott, at the Glasgow Pavilion; (3) Madame Zomah, at the King's Theatre, Dundee; (4) Evelyn Grimonde in "The Little Minister," at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee; (5) Arthur Wynn, now with the Army, stationed at Portobello, and appearing during the Beecham Opera Coy.'s visit to Edinburgh; (6) Ada Crossley, at the Glasgow Empire; (7) Webster Millar as Pinkerton in "Madame Butterfly," at the King's, Edinburgh; (8) Marion Terry in "Wonderful James," at the King's Theatre, Glasgow; (9) Harry Evans in "The B ighow," at the Glasgow Coliseum.

"Wonderful James" is the title of a new comedy which will open at the Glasgow King's to-morrow evening. This comedy is having a "try-out," and goes to London for a season after the Glasgow engagement. Miss Marion Terry and Mr Herbert Waring are making a personal visit with this comedy, which is from the pens of Louis N. Parker and Murray Carson. Mr Waring has a rather unique photograph. This picture was taken specially after a command performance, and three, only three, prints were taken, and the negative was then destroyed. King George has one photo, Mr Waring one, and the other is in the possession, or was, at anyrate, of the Kaiser, who also was at the command performance.

REMARKABLE OFFER.

£500 for her head!

That was the offer once made to Zomah, the wonderful divinator. She has travelled all over the world and mystified thousands of people in every city she has visited. Whilst in Australia she underwent a test before a committee of doctors and scientists, and she came through a most searching examination with flying colours. One of the leading doctors of the city went so far as to make the sporting offer of £500 for her head, should she die during his lifetime and within the next ten years. But Mme. Zomah did not accept. She thought that it was possible she might get a much better offer, which would not be in the least surprising. She gives her wonderful demonstration of telepathy at the King's Theatre, Dundee, this week.

Miss Lola Charm's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," which is due at the Glasgow Olympia Theatre this week, is looked upon as being one of the best pantommes touring this season. It has broken records at nearly every theatre visited. It is full of clean comedy from beginning to end, and is well staged and dressed. The pantomime has been written and produced by George Hirste, and is played by a company of clever artistes. The principal boy, "Robin Hood," is played by Miss Lola Charm herself. Miss Billie Dawson plays Maid Marion, and Boy Blue is in the capable hands of Miss Eva Venton. The comedians are very strong, and consist of Messrs Chorley and Connor, George Hirste, and Tom Jack.

THE LATEST FROM THE GERMAN PAPERS

Despairing Notes Sounded in Numerous Columns; Mysterious Matrimonial Offers.

A VERY significant fact about the latest German papers is that, whilst a great deal of space is devoted to bombastic accounts of Reichstag meetings, the alleged performances of the U-boats, and the military achievements there are in remote corners items of news which cannot be at all pleasant to the palates of the readers.

Appended are some quotations from a number of German papers.

What the Huns are Saying about Vienna.

Vienna has just passed through very exciting and worrying days. The newspapers suddenly published without any further comment that from Tuesday, 13th February, the tramway cars in the city would only run up till nine o'clock in the morning, and then again from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., owing to the absolute lack of coals for electricity. You can imagine the shock to the Viennese. The city of Vienna has almost the same area as London, although its population is three times less. Thus a stoppage of the cars completely paralysed the whole business world of the town. The agitation of the citizens knew no bounds. The discontent the newspapers were afraid to comment upon was loudly voiced in the streets. At every street corner hundreds of waiting people would gather, cursing the authorities and angrily demonstrating their annoyance. Besides, it was an open secret that it would only have required about ten trucks of coal to run midday cars. The real reason for this stoppage was known best to the Burgomaster of Vienna, Mr Weiskirchner, who wished to use the motor power of public discontent in order to strike a blow at the War Ministry, of which he was not a member. One single conference of the Burgomaster and the head of the tramway system with Kaiser Charles, who takes the keenest interest in the affairs of the town, was enough to bring about a renewed service of tramway cars.—Frankfurter Zeitung.

Tribute to the British Press.

There is not the slightest doubt that the British press is a most powerful institution in the camp of our chief enemy. The British editors have a strange but happy knack of presenting their papers in such a manner as to enlist the sympathy of their people and the neutral nations. We are not suggesting for a moment that the British press always tell the truth, but the fact remains that they are most convincing to their readers. If the result of our U-boat campaign could see the British press crippled, then it would be a partial riddance of one of their most formidable weapons against us.—Frankfurter Zeitung.

Difficulties in Steel Factories.

The German steel factories are complaining greatly about the lack of raw material, which has all been requisitioned for munition factories, and this spring the want of new agricultural implements is making itself felt very disagreeably. The manufacture of steel pens, wire, screws, locks, and bolts, &c., has suffered greatly, and at present the prices of these articles are rising enormously.—Frankfurter Handelsblott.

The Reappearance of the Herring.

Last week we reported an absolute lack of herrings in Berlin, but this week we were pleased to see a small number of them in a large store in town, certainly very dwarfed and shrunken, but still they were there, and awakened new hope of fish. One smoked herring cost 1.50 mark (about 1s 6d), and it was only for old acquaintance sake that we bought one. It weighed exactly 150 gramm (12 oz.). We reckoned that 1 lb. of this luxury would cost 5 marks—almost twice as much as 1 lb. of meat. In the same store there were also salt herring, but they were so very small and thin that, counting the head and tail, they only measured 5 inches, and cost 65 pfennig (6½d) apiece. (Sardines of the same size would be much cheaper.) It is really time that something were done to regulate prices. Every German citizen would be interested to know how the price of herrings has risen to such an extent and what the reason for such extortion can be. Personally we are quite glad that our old friend the herring has risen so much in the esteem of our neighbours.—The Vorwarts.

Other Significant Pars.

The Frankfurter Zeitung reports an additional rise in the price of pork and sausages. The rations of milk and butcher meat have also been reduced.

The Kaiser has ordered that the horses and carriages of the Royal houses should be placed at the disposal of the transport centre of the general command to assist in the transport difficulties in Berlin.—Berliner Tageblatt.

During the spring the German farmers will have to use cows and oxen for ploughing and agricultural work owing to the serious shortage of grain for feeding purposes. Animals which are used for field work are to be given a special supply of fodder.—Berliner Tageblatt.

Potato rations are again to be reduced and parsnips substituted. Thus from the 1st March the rations per day are:—½ lb. potatoes and ½ lb. parsnips per head.—Frankfurter Zeitung.

Germany's food supply must be getting low indeed when the population are reduced to buy dog's meat to make up for the lack of other butcher meat. The Leipziger Neueste Nachrichten reports that a certain butcher in Chemnitz is being tried for selling bad dog's meat, unfit for human consumption.

Matrimonial Advertisements in German Papers.

The unconecious humour of the Hun is very pronounced in these journals. The following advertisements are most curious features in the present critical times in Germany. These appear in Kolniecho Zeitung (Cologne Gazette)

A MARRIAGE OF MILLIONS.

Gentleman, with 30 mill. marks of yearly income, of elegant appearance, faultless character, desires the acquaintance of a lady with view to marriage. It would be desirable but not essential that the lady should have capital and be willing to take part in a striking invention which after patenting would bring in 10 million marks. Every serious answer will receive consideration. Reply No. 1001.

A merchant, 24 years old, Catholic, seeks acquaintance of a pretty, accomplished young lady (only of best family), with a view to marriage. The lady must have aptitude and love for housekeeping also easy-going temperament, and be musical. Only serious answers expected, No. 2816, which will be treated honourably and as strictly private.

Millionaire of 40, very healthy, of good family, well travelled, linguist, sympathetic appearance, seeks a beautiful lady of 24-30 of faultless past. Any lack of means may be made up for by beauty of soul and great musical talent (piano). Only ladies with such qualifications may apply, with photograph. Reply No 2002.

EMPIRE,
GLASGOW.
6.45—TWICE NIGHTLY—9.0.
Madame ADA CROSSLEY,
The World Famous Contralto.
CORAM. BERT COOTE. LILY MORRIS.
ROYAL WELLS & ECLAIR. LATEST WAR FILMS. GEORGE NEWBURN.
BETTY WASHINGTON.
MATINEE, TUESDAY, 2.30.
Box Office, 10.30 to 5.30 and 6.30 to 9.30.
'Phone 3751 Douglas.

COLISEUM,
GLASGOW.
6.55—TWICE NIGHTLY—9.
ALBERT DE COURVILLE'S
Grand Production.
"THE BIG SHOW."
ALL-STAR CAST.
120 — BEAUTY CHORUS — 120.
Box Office, 11 to 4—6 to 9.30 p.m.
'Phone—South 250 Central 1501.

LA SCALA,
GLASGOW
MON., TUES., WED., 12th, 13th, 14th March.
BARNEY BERNARD in
PHANTOM FORTUNES.
The Finest Comedy Drama screened.
THURS., FRI., SAT., 15th, 16th, 17th March.
SESSUE HAYAKAWA,
The Renowned Japanese Actor, in
"THE HONOURABLE FRIEND,"
Jesse L. Lasky Play.
Miss MINNIE SEARLE
First Appearance in Glasgow of this Brilliant Young Soprano, from he Principal London Concerts.

THE NEW SAVOY,
GLASGOW'S SUPER CINEMA.
MON., TUES., WED., 12th, 13th, 14th March
(5-Part Drama).
"SHELL 43."
"HUSKS" (5-Part Vitagraph Drama).
THURS., FRI., SAT., 15th, 16th, 17th March.
PAULINE FREDERICK in
"THE WOMAN IN THE CASE."
A Wonderful Life Study.

THEATRE ROYAL,
GLASGOW.
NIGHTLY, at 7. MATINEE, SAT., at 2.
MONDAY, March 12.
LAST WEEK
ROYAL CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
DUNDEE.
MONDAY, Mar. 12th, FOR 6 NIGHTS, at 7.
SAT. MAT., 2.15.
Mr THOS. C. DAGNALL'S CO. Present
"THE LITTLE MINISTER,"
By J. M. BARRIE.
Box Office Open. 'Phone 1919.

KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.
Twice Nightly—6.45 and 8.45.
THE NOVELTY OF THE MOMENT.
"ZOMAH,"
THE WOMAN WHO CAN TELL YOU ANYTHING.
Is it Telepathy? Is it a Trick?
Scientists of the World Baffled.
JACK CHAMBERS, Coon Vocalist. | IVOR VINTOR, The Little Surprise.
PURCELLA and RAMSEY,
In "The Lady Policeman."
EVELYN and CLAYTON,
Charming Bric-a-Brac Act.
BERT WESTON,
A Comedian Who is Funny.
FORD and TRULY,
Chums in Vaudeville.
A BILL OF OUTSTANDING MERIT.
Box Office, 11 to 4, 6.15 to 10. 'Phone 1930.

LA SCALA,
'PHONE 384. 30 MURRAYGATE. DUNDEE.
MONDAY, March 12th.
FOR THREE DAYS ONLY—
"ALIEN SOULS"
(Famous Player Production),
By HECTOR TURNBULL.
THURSDAY, March 15th.
FOR THREE DAYS ONLY—
FLORENCE TURNER
IN
"EAST IS EAST."
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE, 2.30 to 10.15.

ELECTRIC THEATRE,
NETHERGATE, DUNDEE.
Manager, ... T. PENNYCOOK.
CONTINUOUS—2.30 to 10.30.
SHOWING MON., TUES., and WED.,
March 12th, 13th, 14th.
GRACE WASHBURN in
"WHEN IT STRIKES HOME,"
With Edwin August and Muriel Ostriche,
In Four Reels.
Also "THE CRIMINAL CODE,"
Featuring Neva Gerber, in 3 Reels.
SHOWING THUR. FRI. and SAT.,
March 15th, 16th, 17th.
VINIAN MARTIN in
"THE LITTLE DUTCH GIRL."
Founded on Ouida's Novel of Compelling Charm.
"TWO LITTLE WOODEN SHOES,"
In Four Reels.
Also "IN THE SH'DOWS OF DEATH,"
Nordisk Drama in 3 Reels.

SHAND'S PICTURE HOUSE,
SHEP. 3RD'S LOAN, DUNDEE.
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE—6-10.30.
MON., TUES., and WED.
IRENE HOWLEY in
"THE PURPLE LADY,"
Metro Exclusive in Five Reels.
THURS., FRI., and SAT.
MARY PICKFORD in
"HULDA FROM HOLLAND."
Also 3d Episode of "THE LAUGHING MASK,"
Featuring Creighton Hale and Pearl White.

VICTORIA, VICTORIA ROAD, DUNDEE.
CONTINUOUS, 7 to 10.30; SATURDAY, 7 & 9.
Week Commencing 12th March, 1917.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
FACING THE MUSIC,
Starring DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

THE RUBBER REVIVAL: STRENGTH OF GILT-EDGED SECURITIES.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO "THE POST SUNDAY SPECIAL.")

London, Saturday Night.

THE volume of business as a whole has been so disappointingly small that undue prominence has been given to passing influences of an unfavourable character, while favourable factors, such as the continued satisfactory news from the front, have been practically ignored.

There is a tendency to exaggerate the effects of National Service, but, after making all allowances for the latter, there can be little doubt that when the Stock Exchange has once accommodated itself to the new conditions the same should not interfere with the normal flow of business.

This remark applies also to the prospective closing of the House on Saturdays, as even in normal times very little business is done on that day. The general view is that a revival may now be anticipated after the Stock Exchange Committee elections this month.

An important point that must not be overlooked is the favourable Budget outlook, and the fact that now, with the War Loan issue out of the way, new capital is steadily accumulating, the bulk of which must find an outlet in the Stock markets.

THE STRENGTH OF GILT-EDGED SECURITIES.

One of the few features of the week has been the strength of Gilt-Edged Securities, and it is evident that the word has been given to prepare in this way a favourable atmosphere for the inauguration of dealings in the new War Loan stock, which may be anticipated towards the end of the present month.

With the old Four-and-a-Half Per Cent. War Loan quoted at 92 and upwards, the new security should start at at least ½ premium. This would help Gilt-Edged Securities generally, amongst which Consols can still be bought to yield about 4 11-16 per cent.; Irish Lands, 5½ per cent.; Local Loans, 5½ per cent.; India Three Per Cent., 5½ per cent., &c.

The Colonial division, however, offers the greatest margin for capital appreciation, many of the Australasian State Bond issues yielding from 4½ to over 5 per cent. But their main attraction lies in the fact that they must be redeemed, of course, at par, in the comparatively near future.

For instance, Queensland Four-and-a-Half Per Cent., although quoted below 90, are redeemable 1920 to 1925; Victoria Three-and-a-Half Per Cent., at 85, redeemable 1925; New Zealand Three-and-a-Half Per Cent., at 84, redeemable 1924; and so on. The profit on redemption is not subject to income tax, and if the Loans are renewed, instead of being redeemed, this must be on favourable terms to the holders.

PROGRESS OF THE RUBBER REVIVAL — SOME DIVIDEND FORECASTS.

While other markets are hard put to it to keep themselves going at present, the revival in Rubber shares has made further progress, with the demand steadily broadening, and embracing practically every type of company.

The price of rubber has not risen to the same extent as other commodities, but, on the other hand, the fact has to be considered that after the war is over the fall is not likely to be so great. Moreover, the stocks of rubber in the enemy countries have long been exhausted, and as they are very big consumers the replenishment of their stocks after the war will more than make up for any possible falling off in the requirements of other countries.

The chief interest in the Share market at present attaches to the older companies, which escape the excess profits duty, and whose dividend announcements are now to hand. A cautious estimate of the Linggi balance dividend is about 75 per cent., which would make a total distribution for the past year of 130 per cent., as compared with 110 per cent. for 1915.

Other market observers, however, go for a total distribution of as much as 180 per cent. for the past year. In the case of the Selangor it would not be surprising if the total distribution for 1916 were made up to 200 per cent., as against 162½ per cent. for the past year, compared with the record year of 1910, when the dividends amounted to 375 per cent. Many investors, however, have no objection to these shares, owing to the enormous premiums at which they stand, and which give rise to the fear that they are consequently more subject to capital depreciation than shares standing at not much above par.

The Boards of such Companies should, therefore, take the hint, and re-capitalise their properties in accordance with present-day values when the time is opportune. Caution is more necessary in the case of the younger producers, and the proposal is now put forward that those companies, which are more hardly pressed by Excess Profits Duty, should restrict tapping, rest the trees, and conserve the estates, simply maintaining profits at about the present level. This would be a good idea, so long as a definite explanation is given to the shareholders, in order to prevent any nervousness amongst them in consequence of a falling-off in the monthly outputs.

OILS STILL WAITING A LEAD

The Oil market is still wondering why, with Rubber shares going up, it is still left out more or less in the cold, although Oil is at least as important for war and ordinary uses as rubbers. The fact is that the public has now a longer memory than formerly, and does not forget the many fiascos which have attended the opening-up of oilfields in different parts of the world, and the money that has been lost in them.

The latest instances are the decision of the Kern River Company to stop boring operations on the International Russian property at Maikop owing to war troubles, and the desperate plight of the Santa Maria Oilfields at California.

On the other hand, there has been a steady demand for the sound companies, such as Shell Transports, Royal Dutch, Burmahs, Mexican Eagles, and Lobitos.

With regard to the Lobitos Company, there are indications of a renewed attempt on the part of the American group to acquire control, and, if a sufficiently attractive price can be obtained, there is no reason why the shareholders should not take it.

There is a public always ready to invest in Oil shares, but the companies must first justify their existence by satisfactory development work and sound management.

KAFFIR SHARES IRREGULAR — AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS.

Amongst Kaffir shares business is still on a very small scale, although a few shares have been fairly firm, such as Cons. Mines Selection, Central Mining, New Modderfontein, and Modder Deep.

Amongst Far Easterns, Springs Mines were a feature, and it is reported from Johannesburg that the Union Government intend at an early date to offer properties as gold mining leases, such as East Geduld, Springs No. 15, Randfontein No. 14, and various others. This may bring a little more life into the market.

RHODESIANS QUIET — DIAMONDS HESITATING.

Amongst Rhodesians, Chartered shares have been fairly steady, but not above 11s 6d. Amalgamated Props. have been firmer on the announcement that an appeal has been lodged against Mr Justice Eve's decision against the Globe & Phœnix Company, and it is understood that the same will come up for hearing in four or five weeks' time. There is not much doing in the rest of this market.

Amongst Diamond shares De Beers Deferred are fairly steady at 12 13-16. A matter of some interest is that the Union Government has accepted the tender of the Diamond Syndicate for the Diamond production of South West Africa. This, therefore, should prevent any fall in the prices of Diamonds. The Jungle market has been very dull, and Indian Gold Mines have been inactive, although Mysore Gold are a little better than they have been.

SILVER FLUCTUATING — RUSSIAN MINES MOSTLY DULL.

Silver has been on the down grade the whole week, but to-day suddenly rallied from 37¼d to 37 5-16d per ounce for bars, on some coinage purchases. Burma Corporation are steady, but Canadian have declined. Barriers have been dull, notably Broken Hill Props. In West Australians, Great Boulder Props. have been steady, and Boulder Perseverance have advanced on favourable news from the mine.

Russian Mines have been very subdued, apart from Kyshtims, which have been the firm spot on favourable reports. Irtysh Corporation are lower, and Russo-Asiatics have also been flat, while Tanalyks have been declining. Much depends on the movement of the Petrograd Exchange, which is now very unfavourable.

COPPER LOWER — TIN RALLYING AGAIN.

Copper is lower for the week, at £136 5s for cash, and Copper Mines have moved very slowly, apart from the Americans, which have been in some demand, Utah at 23½, Anaconda at 18½. Tin, after declining, is rallying again at £201 12s 6d for cash, and amongst Tin Mining shares Nigerians have been neglected, Anglo-Continental and Nigerian Tin Corporation declining. Cornish Mines are firmer, especially Dolcoath and South Crofty.

YESTERDAY'S PRICES.

(By "Post" Special Wire.)

The following are the quotations in stocks and shares in which there was a movement:—

BONDS.

Met Water	57	½			

HOME RAILS.

North-West	96¼	¾	Mid Pref	*41½	2
Brighton Def	*59	½			

AMERICANS.

Denver Pref	32	3	Missouri	8½	9

FOREIGN RAILS.

B.A. Western	72¾	3½	Central Arg	62	3

RUBBER MARKET.

Batu Caves	16	Labu. F.M.S.	8/9
Castlefield	6¼	Ledbury	3½
Cheviot	5/6	Malayalam	1½
Consol. Malay	14/-	North Hummock	4 3-16
Inch Kenneth	6	Padang Java	3/6
Kamuning Perak	4/3	R. Estates, Johore	2½
Kapar Para	6¾	R. Estates, Krian	3/3
Kepong (Malay)	15/9	Seaport	25/6
Kinta Kellas	4/4½	Sim Rubber	4 11-16
Kuala Lumpur	5	Sungei Choh	4¾

RHODESIAN.

Amal Prop of Rhod	8d	Zambesia Explor	17/-
Goldfields (Rhod De)	5/6		

GOLD OUTPUTS.

E. Rand Prop Mine 10/9

DEEP LEVELS.

Brakpan Mines	4⅝	Spring Mines	2⅞
City Deep	4¼	Van Ryn Deep	3¼

WEST AUSTRALIAN MARKET LIST.

Lake View & Oroya	9/3	W.A.G. Assets	3/3
Mount Yagahong	2/3	El Oro Mine & Rail	7/3

*Ex Div.

FATAL BURNING ACCIDENT AT RENTON.

Wounded Soldier's Child Loses Life.

Renton, Saturday.

The burning accident reported at Renton yesterday has had a fatal termination, as the victim of the sad affair, Alexander Chapman M'Intyre, about two years, son of Alexander Chapman M'Intyre, Carman Road, Renton, has succumbed to his injuries in the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

The little boy had been playing with two other children in the house during the mother's absence. On lighting some papers his clothes caught fire, and he was dreadfully burned.

The father, a wounded soldier, is in hospital.

At a Farmers' Union meeting rabbits were blamed for "polluting land so that tuberculosis became rampant among dairy herds sent to graze on it."

WOMEN SHOT BY HUN INVADERS.

OUTRAGE IN SERBIAN TERRITORY.

London, Saturday.

The Serbian Legation issues the following:—

A German author, Oscar Maurus Fontana, who accompanied the German army to Serbia, published in the German review, The Stage, of January 4 a long description of the deeds of the German troops on Serbian territory, which is the more remarkable because it contains a great number of cynical admissions and "explanations" of the atrocities committed on the civil population. Among others, he describes the following scene:—

"During a march we came to a house which was on fire. That was a signal. Shells were raining on us. The soldiers put out the fire, and brought along three women and an aged Serb whom they had found near the fire. They are accused of having set the house on fire. They reply 'No.' They are told to confess. They reply, 'We have done nothing. It was done by others. It is our own house which is burning. It was set alight by other people.'

"They are then asked how many Serbian troops have passed that way. They reply, 'We do not know.' Thereupon the commander says, 'Shoot them.' The group stands still. This takes their breath away.

"Nobody tells these women in their own native tongue what is going to be done to them, but they have understood. They cast down their eyes like an animal expecting a blow. They do not utter a sound. A momentary shiver passes through them. They do not believe, they do not comprehend. Their eyes look for deliverance—expect a miracle.

"They walk slowly, or rather drag themselves. Before their condemnation they had looked fixedly at some of us, mutely and without tears, in such a manner that we also had to cast down our eyes. Afterwards the crackling of the rifles was heard."

BAND OF HOPE VOCALISTS

RESULTS OF GLASGOW DISTRICT COMPETITION.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

Forty-four young vocalists took part this afternoon in the annual solo singing competition promoted by the Scottish Band of Hope Union. There were four sections, the soloists being arranged according to age, and the singing was so good that the judges—Messrs W. H. Murray, Andrew H. Picken, and James T. Hamilton—had no easy task in allocating the medals and other prizes.

There was a large attendance of friends, and Mr John M'Harg, convener of the Music Committee, presided, the others taking part in the proceedings including ex-Councillor Whitson (who generously provided the prizes) and Mrs Robert Buchanan, who at the close handed the prizes to the successful competitors.

The following were the prize-winners:—

Section 1—Ruby Lindsay and George Drennan.

Section 2 (girls)—1 (medal), Cathie Scott; 2, Peggy Barr; 3, Mary Adams; 4, Ella M'Innes; 5, Agnes Wade. Boys—1 (medal), David Howie; 2, John Baillie; 3, Tom Poston.

Section 3—1 (medal), Miss C. Melville; 2, Jenny Wood.

Section 4—1, Patrick B. Brown; 2, Mrs Buntin.

JUNIOR GAS ASSOCIATION AT FALKIRK.

Falkirk, Saturday.

This afternoon the Eastern and Western Sections of the Scottish Junior Gas Association paid a visit of inspection to Falkirk Gas Works. The party numbered over fifty, and, under the guidance of Mr William Wilson, gas manager, and Mr John Wilson, assistant manager at Greenock, and formerly assistant at Falkirk, made a tour of the works.

The company included Dean of Guild Muirhead, Convener of Falkirk Gas Committee; the President of the Western Section, Mr George Purves, Auchengeich Colliery, Chryston; Secretary of Western Section, Mr Malcolm Littlejohn, Glasgow Corporation Lighting Department; President of Eastern Section, Mr James J. Smith, Largo; and the Secretary of the Eastern Section, Mr Robert Scott, Gas Office, Cowdenbeath.

The visitors expressed satisfaction with their visit to the works, which they deemed well managed and thoroughly up-to-date. At the close of the round of the works the company were entertained to tea by the Corporation.

HOUSE FAMINE AT IRVINE

Attitude of the Town Council

Irvine, Saturday.

The influx of new industries and the prospect of more, has led to a house famine unprecedented in the history of this ancient burgh.

It is believed that something like two-thirds of the workers have perforce to travel daily to and from their work for lack of housing accommodation. House factors are invaded daily by crowds of people on the hunt for quarters, and in some cases they have been forced to post notices outside their premises stating they have no houses to let, so as to prevent useless interruption of their work. All have long lists of persons desiring accommodation. Indeed, so lengthy are these that the factors decline to take more names. Many young couples cannot get married because of the scarcity of the dwellings.

The Town Council some time ago built a number of houses, and they have now decided to communicate with the Government on the question of housing in the town.

On the occasion of his semi-jubilee the Rev. Charles Allan, Grenock, received a pulpit gown and a cheque from his congregation.

IN THE MELTING POT.

BRIGHT PARS ON TOPICAL SUBJECTS.

Specially Contributed by Thomas Jay.

The British on the Ancre seem to be winning "a gain and a gain." And this month of March seems to be a month of run to the Germans.

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Judging by the way the enemy retreated from Gommecourt, the Germans look like carrying off all the sprinting handicaps at the next Olympic Games.

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Count Bernstorff denies the statement that he knows all about the Mexican plot against America. He will probably plead that he saw the thing coming, and just stroked his head.

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Herr Ballin has stated that Germany has always played a straight game with America. But Mark Twain is still the favourite humorist of America.

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There must be some mistake about the rumour that capital is tight in Europe. Serbia has moved hers, and Belgium and Turkey is ready to quit any minute now.

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A donkey was killed by an Army caterpillar in the Strand the other day. It was an unequal combat from the first.

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A contemporary mentions that a floating cinema has been started in New York harbour. But a company promoter says this is no novelty, as cinemas are being floated in this country almost every week.

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A well-known American actor, who has been engaged to play Hamlet, admitted recently that he had not seen or read the play. We understand that he was awfully interested when he learned that it was by Shakespeare.

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The colonel of a Hungarian Regiment orders his men "not to forget to take off the uniforms and boots of soldiers killed in action." Pleasant fellow.

The German retirement on the W[estern] front, according to the Frankfurter Z[eitung], was "just as Von Hindenb[urg] sited," and it is good to think t[hat] British soldiers are obliging this c[ourt]eous fellow, to whom reverses are, if [not] tories, strategic movements.

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The animals at the London Zoo[logical] Gardens are said to be suffering with [colds]. It must be interesting work trying [to] hot water bottles on the feet of a w[ild] and we feel awfully sympathetic to[wards] giraffe with a sore throat.

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Herr Ballin, in an interview with [the] Cologne Gazette, said "it will be a n[ews] if England has discovered a weapon for [the] submarine." Only one other miracle [is] quired, and that is a victory by Field-Ma[rshal] von Hindenburg.

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The Turks now state that they are [ham]pered by a lack of money and material, [and] they are about to point out to Ger[many] that they cannot be expected to make [an] advance without an advance.

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We understand that Sir Douglas H[aig] has a pressing engagement on the West[ern] front.

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A youth aged eighteen, who was [only] three feet six in height, appeared before [the] Bradford military authorities last week, [after] having received a calling-up paper. Never mind. Every little helps.

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Mr Pemberton Billing wants to see [all] amusements abolished. This is rather hard and to close the theatres and music halls will rob us all of a little entertainment. Besides, Mr Billing is not always speaking in the house, so where are we to look for that light entertainment so necessary to-day?

Seven Years' Sufferer from

PILES

Complete and Lasting Cure.

Our portrait is of Mr. J. C. Vale, of 282 Waterloo Buildings, Old Kent Road, London, S.E., who writes:—

"It is with much pleasure I write to let you know I have been completely cured by your 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' I had been a Great Sufferer from Piles for seven years, and I tried several advertised cures without any benefit. Then I was advised to try 'Clarke's Blood Mixture,' and after taking five small bottles was Quite Cured. It is 10 months since the cure, and there has been no return. I shall recommend it to all I know, and shall be pleased to answer any inquiries, as I cannot speak too highly of 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.'" In a further letter, dated 6th June, 1916, over two years since his cure, Mr Vale writes: "I have not had any return of the Piles."

Sufferers from

Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Glandular Swellings, Piles, Eczema Boils Pimples, Sores and Eruptions, Rheumatism, or kindred complaints, should realise that lotions, ointments, &c., can but give temporary relief—to be sure of a cure, complete and lasting, the blood must be thoroughly cleansed of the impure waste matter, the true cause of all such troubles. Clarke's Blood Mixture expels the impurities from the blood; that is why so many wonderful cures stand to its credit. Pleasant to take, and free from injurious ingredients.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

The World's Best Remedy for Skin & Blood Troubles

Of all Chemists and Stores, 2/9 per bottle. *Refuse Substitutes.*

For your Infant or Invalid

Benger's Food is appetising and delicious. Even the milk used to prepare it is made lighter and easier to digest!

In the tin one food may look like another, but there the resemblance of any other food to Benger's ends.

BENGER'S Food

while being prepared becomes blended into a dainty cream by a *gentle first process of digestion*, self-contained in the Food.

To this, and to its great nutritive power, Benger's owes its unique position as "*the Food the Doctor orders.*"

From an *M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.*

"I am a Specialist in Diseases in Children, and am using Benger's Food extensively in my practice."

Benger's Food is sold in time by Chemists, etc., everywhere price 1/-, 1/6, 2/6, 5/- & 10/-
Full particulars and directions with each tin. Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers:
BENGER'S FOOD LTD., MANCHESTER, England.
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FAMOUS FRENCH ACTRESS

TELLS READERS

"HOW I SECURED MY BEAUTIFUL HAIR."

SPECIAL INTERVIEW—

Gina Palerme's Interesting Revelation.

IMMENSE GIFT OF 1,000,000 HAIR BEAUTIFYING OUTFITS NOW READY FOR FREE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(See Special Free Coupon Below).

EW more beautiful women grace the English stage to-day than that love- st of French actresses, Gina Palerme. A few years before the war Gina Palerme ded, unheralded, on our shores. A reme favourite in France, it had long en her great notion to be Entente ac- ss, for her e Parisian in- ct told her at a British dience would lcome and ap- reciate the lent of the ter country. ke Cæsar, she me, she saw, e conquered. Struck by her auty and high tistic talent, shrewder a dge than the e Mr George wardes de- ed to include r among the ny handsome l brilliant men he had roduced to British pub- Mr George wardes' ad- e was brief d pertinent. Learn the guage, and a rt awaits ," said he. "If only for thing," re- rked Miss lerme while ng inter- wed recently, have to nk this coun- for teaching how to care my hair. veryone nows how nd I am of (I think I y say it without excessive vanity) beau- l and plentiful hair.

"Ever since I can remember I have cul- ated and cared for it most assiduously, it has never been so resplendent, liant, and beauteous as now. Shall I tell u why? It is only right and fair that I uld, for I owe it entirely to British ught and skill.

and queens of the cinema theatres have added their testimony to the hair-beautify- ing qualities of "Harlene Hair-Drill." Letters have literally poured in to the Dis- coverer-Inventor of this most popular and uniformly successful method of growing luxuriant and beautiful hair.

Photo: Rita Martin.

MISS GINA PALERME.

the popular and talented French actress. Everyone will read with special interest her impressive remarks on the subject of the cultivation of beautiful hair. It is open to everyone to follow her advice free of charge, as no less than 1,000,000 complete Four-fold Gift Outfits are to be distributed.

TO-DAY'S GIFT TO EVE Y READER.

In order to prove for your- self, without cost, how easy it is to make your own hair more radiantly beautiful and healthy in ap- pearance, you may apply for one of the 1,000,000 Free Four-Fold 'Hair-Drill' Gift Outfits which are now being distri- buted. It will be sent you im- mediately you post the coupon below.

And see what a wonderful, what a complete Gift this is.

It comprises:—

1. A bottle of "Harlene," the true liquid food for the hair, which stimu- lates it to new growth. It is tonic, food, and Dressing in one.

2. A packet of the mar- vellous hair and scalp cleansing "Cremex" Shampoo Pow- der, which pre- pares the head for "Hair-Drill."

3. A bottle of "Uzon" Brilliantine, which gives a final touch of beauty to the hair, and is especially beneficial to those whose scalp is inclined to be "dry."

4. A copy of the new edition of the 'Hair-Drill" Manual, giving complete instructions for this hair-growing exercise.

Once you have experienced the splendid hair-growing and hair-improving properties of "Harlene" you will always be able to ob- tain future supplies from your local chemist at 1/1½, 2/9, or 4/9 per bottle. (In solidified form "Harlene" is now ready for Soldiers, Sailors, Travellers, etc., sold in tins at 2s 9d, with full directions as to use.) "Uzon" Brilliantine costs 1s and 2s 6d per bottle, and "Cremex" Shampoo Powders 2d each, or 1s per box of seven shampoos.

Any or all of the preparations will be sent post free on receipt of price direct from Edwards' Harlene, Limited, 20, 22, 24, and 26, Lamb's Conduit Street, London, W.C. Carriage extra on foreign orders. Cheques and P.O.'s should be crossed. Write to-day.

HARLENE HAIR-DRILL" IS UNEQUALLED.

I am a constant and conscientious prac- r of the famous 'Harlene Hair-Drill," a paration and process that, to my mind, is qualled for not only maintaining one's r in its natural excellence, but adding erously to its charm and colour.

Of course, I have used many other pre- rations in my time, but I have never yet nd anything so consistent and so certain its beneficial effects as 'Harlene Hair- ill.' I am more than deeply conscious of great indebtedness to 'Hair-Drill,' for, very professional knows, nothing is more ng than the trials to which our hair is jected."

VICE WORTH FOLLOWING.

When a lady such pre- inent artistic us, who, rt from her strionic lity depends a degree n her ap- rance, speaks highly of Harlene r-Drill," n the obvious clusion re- ains that Harlene Hair- ill" is also eficial to ple in all lks of life. Many other ous actresses

POST THIS FREE GIFT FORM.

Fill in and post to EDWARDS' HARLENE, LTD., 20, 22, 24 & 26, LAMB'S CONDUIT ST., LONDON, W.C.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me your Free "Harlene" Fourfold Hair-growing Outfit as described above. I enclose 4d. in stamps to cover cost of postage to any part of the world. (Foreign stamps accepted.)

NAME, ...

ADDRESS, ...

Sunday Post 11/3/17. .....

SCOTTISH NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

The gross drawings at the Annan free gift sale amounted to £2152 9s 3d.

Edinburgh is considering the question of establishing a museum of war relics.

Sunday work is to be permitted in Glas- gow on the allotments by the Corporation.

Haddocks have been fetching £6 7s per box, a record price, in the Glasgow market.

A Glasgow South-Side school the other day organised a prize drawing for bags of potatoes.

Wages for farm servants at Berwick annual hiring fair were 6s or 7s higher than last year.

Paisley Y.M.C.A. have received an anony- mous gift of £650 for the erection of a soldiers' hut.

The Government do not propose to inter- fere with the ordinary Easter holidays or in Scotland with the spring holiday.

Besides being fined £2 for exposing for sale six bags of coal that were short in weight, a Greenock dealer had to forfeit the goods.

Sir Hugh and the Lady Alice Shaw Stewart have given up a part of the man- sion of Ardgowan as a hospital for wounded soldiers.

Father Macnamara, St Patrick's Catholic Church, Kilsyth, has been appointed Canon of the Cathedral Chapter of St Mary's, Edinburgh.

Dr Kelman, of Edinburgh, who was urged to go to America to give his impressions of the war as he saw it in France, has arrived in New York.

Out of last week's sale of "mystery" tickets on the Glasgow cars a cheque for £500 has been sent to the H.L.I. Prisoners of War Fund.

Dumbartonshire has, it is estimated, one Justice of the Peace for every 1000 inhabi- tants, while in Argyllshire there are about four per 1000.

Buckhaven Town Council, by way of in- creasing food production, have suspended for the period of the war the byelaws regu- lating piggeries.

School Boards are granting temporary ex- emption to a number of pupils to enable them to assist farmers in the work of early potato planting.

A physical instructress for Stirling High School is being advertised for, at a salary of £100 per annum, and for this she must also teach dancing.

After enjoying immunity from infectious diseases for four or five years, Thornhill has been visited by a rather alarming out- break of diphtheria.

During the past few months Larkhall Poor's Coal Committee distributed 304 carts of coal, aggregating 3648 cwts. of fuel, among the deserving poor.

A Milton soldier has the honour to be the first Campsie man to be married under the new order whereby proclamation and mar- riage can be accomplished in one day.

At the Scottish stallion show, which closed at Scotstoun, the Cawdor Cup for the best stallion or entire colt was won by Mr J. P. Sleigh's first prize aged horse Kismet.

The whole of the houses at Binnend vil- lage, Burntisland, have been taken over by the Admiralty to provide accommodation for the Rosyth Dockyard workers and their families.

The Glasgow City Council has decided to release all its employees who can plough, and to make up the difference between their agricultural and their ordinary wages for the next two months.

A fine of three guineas was imposed at Edinburgh on Alfred Edward Aaronson for wearing a uniform nearly resembling naval uniform, and collecting money on behalf of a home in Musselburgh.

Owing to the absence of so many game- keepers and shepherds, foxes are said to have become very numerous in Strathalladale, Sutherland, and to pay night visits to the village in quest of food.

During the month of February the record catch of 21,000 pounds of salmon, represent- ing a value of £2018 0s 4d, was taken at the fishings belonging to the Commissioners of the Aberdeen Harbour Board.

A fine ambulance van for the conveyance of sick or wounded horses in the streets of Glasgow and district has been on exhibition at the stables of the Caledonian Railway Company in Parliamentary Road.

Mr Andrew Weir, who has received an important appointment under the War Office, is a native of Kirkcaldy, and prin- cipal of the shipowning firm of Andrew Weir & Co., of Glasgow and London.

The Duke of Sutherland and Lord Lovat have both thrown open their deer forests for grazings, the former charging 7s 6d per head of stock in the case of crofters and 12s 6d in the case of larger farmers.

The trawler Princess Olga of Aberdeen deposited a shot of fish which realised over £3500. The vessel had been away about three weeks, and was on her maiden trip. The skipper's share of the earnings will amount to about £250.

From the Lord Provost of Glasgow a letter is to be sent to every man in the city from 18 to 61 years of age containing a direct appeal to each individual to volun- teer. Glasgow is the only centre in which this policy has been adopted.

Farmers and occupiers of land in the country hunted by the Border Foxhounds are asked by the M.F.H. to reduce the number of foxes, where too numerous, before lambing time, as the bad weather has curtailed the hunting season.

Eastwood School Board, out of about 100 applicants, have appointed Miss Janet Todd, Shawlands, to be a temporary com- pulsory officer, in room of Mr R. G. Blair, chief compulsory officer, who, being a skilled engineer, has been granted leave of absence to engage in munition work during the period of the war.

SAFEGUARD YOUR HEALTH WITH

THE RELIABLE FAMILY MEDICINE. Used by Doctors and the Public in all parts of the World for upwards of 60 years.

Dr J. Collis Browne's CHLORODYNE

The Best Remedy Known for COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.

A true palliative in NEURALGIA TOOTHACHE, RHEUMATISM.

Acts like a charm in DIARRHŒA, COLIC, and other bowel complaints.

Of all chemists. 1/3, 2/-, 5/-.

Always ask for a "Dr. COLLIS BROWNE."

"THE PROVIDENTIAL DISCOVERY THAT HAS NEVER FAILED."

Through incessant recommendations of those cured by "Liq-u-fruta" the demand is so over- whelming that every Chemist's Supply is rapidly exhausted. The stocks, however, are daily re- plenished, so that sufferers unable to obtain at the first attempt should again apply to the Chemist the day following. If the case is very urgent, send Postal Order for 3/- or 5/- to 648, Camberwell Grove, London, S.E., and bottle will be sent by return post.

LUNG TROUBLE & CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, CATARRH,

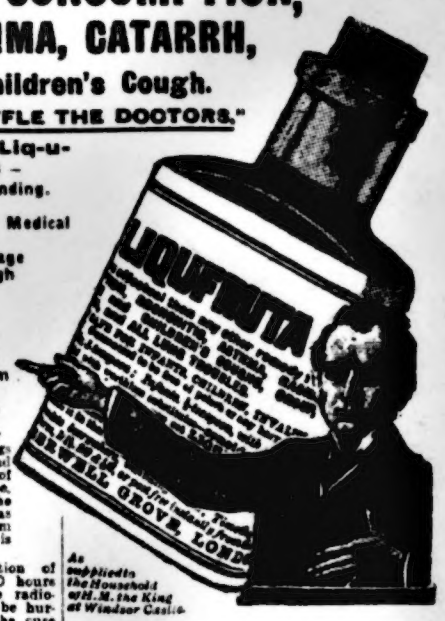
Whooping Cough, Children's Cough.

"THE DISEASES THAT BAFFLE THE DOCTORS."

The Marvellous Specific "Liq-u-fruta" that never fails –

—Chronic Asthma of even 20 years' standing.
—Terrible Hacking Bronchitis.
—Lung Trouble when Sanatoria and Medical Treatment had failed.

—Blood Spitting	—Lung Hemorrhage
—Tearing Coughs	—Whooping Cough
—Bronchial Catarrh	—Quinsy
—Pneumonia	—Croup
—Laryngitis	—Nasal Catarrh
—Night Sweats	—Loss of Flesh
—Influenza	—Racking Cough
—Difficult Breathing	—Choking Phlegm
—Sore Throat	—Emphysema



As supplied to the Household of H.M. the King at Windsor Castle.

OVER 1,000,000 PRAISE "LIQ-U-FRUTA."

It will remove any case of Asthma or Bronchitis. It will strengthen your lungs and enable you to breathe more freely and efficiently. It will banish every germ of weakness or disease from your throat, nose, and respiratory organs. It arrests even the deadly ravages of tuberculosis, and has banished every trace of Consumption from the lungs of thousands. Instant relief is experienced.

Every bottle contains the emulsification of twelve herbal ingredients, and requires 60 hours for impregnation with the most valuable radio- active emanations and gases, and cannot be hur- ried. Mr Home-Newcombe himself puts the cure in every bottle.

"IT SAVED MY ONLY SON'S LIFE."

My only son lay at the point of death, suffering from several of the above diseases—the most skilled physicians had done their utmost, but un- availingly, for at last my doctor told me nothing more could be done, and that I must be prepared for the end.

Then it was that I discovered "LIQ-U-FRUTA," and cured my only son. "LIQ-U-FRUTA" miraculously saved his life, and since that date the lives of thousands of others.

(Signed) W. HOME-NEWCOMBE.

"Liq-u-fruta" never upsets the Stomach, being purely herbal; it is quite harmless to the infant a day old, or to the elderly with weak hearts.

Thousands of letters overflowing with gratitude are received. The following is a sample, and deals with those terrible diseases Bronchial Catarrh, Lung Trouble, and Pleurisy:—

Mr J. Unwood, of Worksop, Nottingham, writes on February 15th: "My wife was suffering months and months with se.ere lung trouble, and Pleurisy and pronounced Bronchial Catarrh; she had a terrible hacking cough, and we both thought that as nothing else was able to do any good, and that as ordinary medicines were useless, we would give 'Liqufruta' a trial. Now, I am most pleased to say the very first bottle worked wonders, and so I obtained a further supply, and very soon the Pleurisy was completely gone, and cough hardly noticeable; and the lung trouble also greatly better; in fact, so much so that we now feel a complete cure will result. My wife has further- more put on many pounds of flesh since she com- menced with 'Liqufruta,' and it has proved itself such a good flesh builder that I cannot praise it enough, and I shall always recommend it, and will gladly tell anyone who suhers."

Just what happened to this gentleman's wife, who suffered from Asthma, Pleurisy, Consumption, and terrible Coughs, can happen to you—will hap- pen to you—for there never has been a failure yet. "Liq-u-fruta" is equally safe for the infant a day old or for the aged with weak hearts.

A COUGH AND "LIQ-U-FRUTA" CANNOT EXIST TOGETHER.

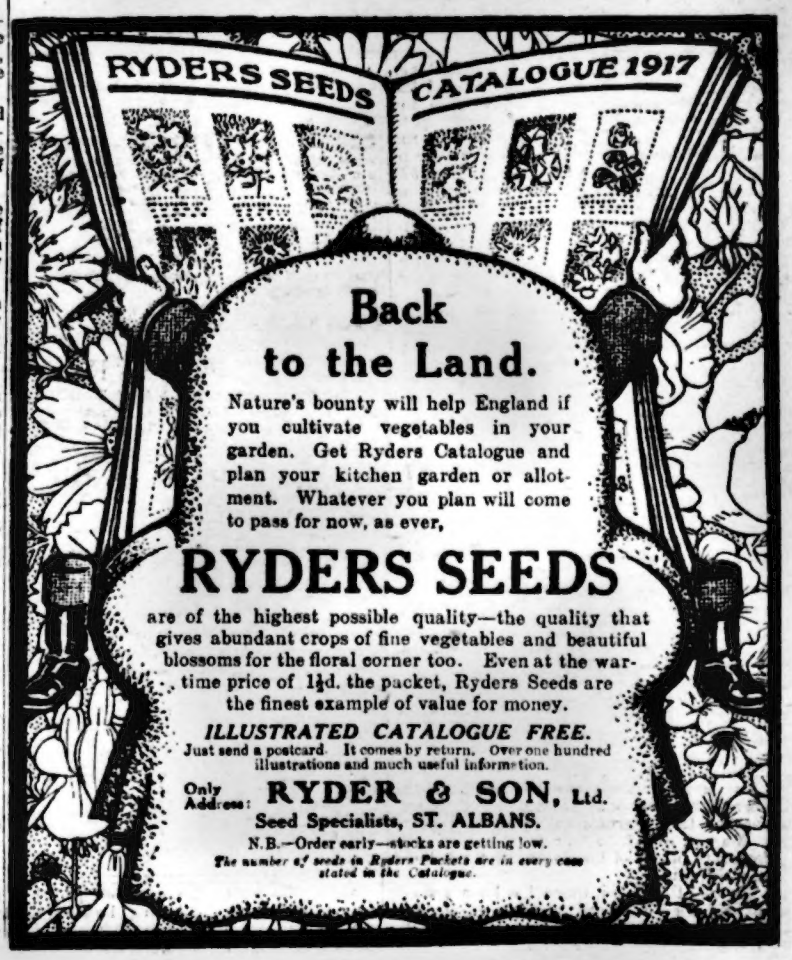
"Liq-u-fruta" is THE remedy that never fails.

It is the ever-open door to health.

"Liq-u-fruta" is gladly supplied by all the 560 Branches of Boots' Cash Chemists, Glasgow Apothecaries, Cockburn & Co., and all Chemists and Stores, 1s 3d, 3s, and 5s, or direct and post free from Mr W. Home-Newcombe, 648, Camber- well Grove, London, S.E., for remittance in stamps or postal orders. For 2d in stamps my book "Worth its Weight in Gold," published at 1s, will be sent post free.

Liqufruta

CURES EVERYTHING WITH A COUGH IN IT.


RYDERS SEEDS
CATALOGUE 1917
Back to the Land.
Nature's bounty will help England if you cultivate vegetables in your garden. Get Ryders Catalogue and plan your kitchen garden or allot- ment. Whatever you plan will come to pass for now, as ever,
RYDERS SEEDS
are of the highest possible quality—the quality that gives abundant crops of fine vegetables and beautiful blossoms for the floral corner too. Even at the war- time price of 1½d. the packet, Ryders Seeds are the finest example of value for money.
ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE FREE.
Just send a postcard. It comes by return. Over one hundred illustrations and much useful information.
Only Address: RYDER & SON, Ltd.
Seed Specialists, ST. ALBANS.
N.B.—Order early—stocks are getting low.
The number of seeds in Ryders Packets are in every case stated in the Catalogue.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.

X INDICATES MATCH OFF

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

Aberdeen,	2	Dumbarton,	4
Celtic,	6	Hamilton Acad.,	1
Falkirk,	1	Ayr United,	2
Hearts,	1	Airdrieonians,	4
Kilmarnock,	3	Motherwell,	0
Morton,	1	Rangers,	0
Partick Thistle,	0	Hibernian,	3
Queen's Park,	2	Clyde,	2
Raith Rovers,	0	Third Lanark,	1
St Mirren,	2	Dundee,	0

WESTERN LEAGUE.

Dumbarton Harp, ..	4	Stevenston United, ..	0

EASTERN LEAGUE.

Dunfermline Athletic	2	E. Stirlingshire, ...	0

WESTERN CUP.

Vale of Leven, ...	1	Johnstone, ...	1

DUMBARTONSHIRE CUP.

Renton, ...	1	Clydebank, ...	3

VICTORIA CUP.

Arthurlie, ...	2	Abercorn, ...	0

GLASGOW JUNIOR CUP—Replay.

Beabu'k, ...	3	Maryhill, ...	0

LANARKSHIRE CUP—Semi-Final.

Bellshill Athletic, ..	0	Burnbank Athletic,	2

AYRSHIRE CUP—Semi-Final.

Stevenston Thistle, ..	1	Ardeer Thistle, ...	1

STIRLINGSHIRE CUP.

Dunipace, ...	0	Denny Hibs, ...	1

GLASGOW JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Strathclyde	2	Pollok, ...	0
Petershill, ...	1	Kirkintilloch R.R.,	0
Ashfield, ...	6	Perthshire, ...	0
Cambuslang Ran., ..	4	Shettleston, ...	2
Glencairn, ...	7	Clydebank Juniors, ..	1
Larkhall Thistle, ...	0	Parkhead, ...	2

SCOTTISH JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Renfrew Juniors, ...	3	Hamilton Rangers, ...	0
Yoker Athletic, ...	2	Neilston Vics., ...	2
Thorntonbank, ...	x	St Anthony's, ...	x
Bedlay Juniors, ...	4	Outlands Juniors, ...	0
Grey Celtic, ...	0	Port-Glasgow Athletic,	0
Kilsyth Emmet, ...	x	Glenboig Cameronians,	x

ENGLISH LEAGUE.

Lancashire Section.

Burnley, ...	4	Rochdale, ...	3
Bury, ...	2	Southport County, ..	1
Liverpool, ...	3	Manchester City, ...	0
Manchester United, ..	0	Everton, ...	2
Oldham Athletic, ...	3	Port Vale, ...	0
Preston North End, ..	1	Bolton Wanderers, ..	2
Stockport County, ..	7	Blackburn Rovers, ..	1
Stoke	6	Blackpool, ...	0

Midland Section.

Bradford City, ...	1	Barnsley, ...	1
Chesterfield Town, ..	3	Lincoln City, ...	3
Grimsby Town, ...	2	Hull City, ...	3
Huddersfield, ...	3	Sheffield Wednesday	0
Leicester Fosse, ...	1	Notts Forest, ...	1
Notts County, ...	1	Birmingham, ...	1
Rotherham County, ..	2	Pradford, ...	1
Sheffield United, ...	2	Leeds City, ...	2

London Combination.

Watford, ...	5	Brentford, ...	2
Q.P. Rangers, ...	3	Crystal Palace, ...	2
Southampton, ...	2	Tottenham Hotspur,	4
Clapton Orient, ...	6	Portsmouth, ...	1
West Ham United, ..	2	Arsenal, ...	3
Luton, ...	3	Millwall, ...	1
Chelsea, ...	3	Fulham, ...	1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Celtic, ...	30	21	0	9	63	13	51
Rangers, ...	30	20	5	5	53	17	45
Morton, ...	32	20	7	5	57	34	45
Airdrieonians, ...	32	17	8	7	59	34	41
St Mirren, ...	31	15	8	8	46	33	38
Third Lanark, ...	30	13	7	10	39	32	36
Kilmarnock, ...	34	15	12	5	59	40	35
Motherwell, ...	32	14	13	5	52	52	33
Dumbarton, ...	31	12	12	7	51	60	31
Partick Thistle, ...	30	11	12	7	35	33	29
Falkirk, ...	32	10	13	9	49	46	29
Clyde, ...	29	7	8	14	35	41	28
Ayr United, ...	32	10	16	6	38	49	26
Hibernian, ...	32	8	14	10	49	63	26
Hamilton Acad., ...	31	8	14	9	36	60	25
Hearts	32	11	19	2	35	55	24
Queen's Park	29	9	15	5	45	60	23
Dundee, ...	31	9	19	3	46	62	21
Raith Rovers, ...	32	6	19	7	32	73	19
Aberdeen, ...	32	6	20	6	31	53	18

WESTERN LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Stevenston United,	20	14	4	2	39	19	30
Clydebank, ...	17	12	2	3	37	15	27
Vale of Leven, ...	18	8	6	4	35	24	20
Dumbarton Harp, ..	15	9	5	1	30	16	19
Abercorn, ...	16	7	4	5	29	21	19
Johnstone, ...	19	5	8	6	25	34	16
Albion Rovers, ...	19	4	9	6	23	28	14
Renton, ...	16	2	7	7	18	31	11
Arthurlie, ...	17	3	10	4	17	31	10

EASTERN LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Cowdenbeath, ...	16	11	2	5	45	19	27
St Bernards	17	10	5	2	35	17	22
East Fife, ...	14	8	2	4	24	7	20
Armadale, ...	16	6	4	6	29	23	18
Dundee Hibs, ...	15	6	8	1	27	30	13
Dunfermline, ...	16	7	8	1	21	27	15
E. Stirlingshire, ...	14	4	7	3	24	33	11
Broxburn United, ..	12	4	6	2	11	22	10
Bathgate, ...	13	3	8	2	18	31	8
Lochgelly United, ..	13	2	11	0	10	35	4

WESTERN CUP COMPETITION.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Clydebank, ...	7	5	0	2	14	11	10
Stevenston United, ..	6	3	2	1	12	5	8
Johnstone, ...	4	3	0	1	7	2	7
Abercorn, ...	7	2	1	4	10	18	5
Vale of Leven, ...	7	2	4	1	14	12	5
Arthurlie, ...	7	1	1	5	4	11	3

The two teams which finish at top play a final tie.

WHIPPETING.

LOCHGELLY MEET.

The weekly handicap took place yesterday. There was an exciting encounter in the final, when Little Wonder and Roscoe ran a dead heat for first and second places, and had to run off again. The final result was:—1 Little Wonder (Mr Black, Lochore) (13½); 2 Roscoe (Mr Blair, Bowhill) (12½); 3 Lucky Meg (Mr Yortstone, Cowdenbeath) (11); 4 Irish Maid (Mr Murphy, Lochore) (10). Betting—Evens on Little Wonder.

GLASGOW MEET.

A 200 yards handicap was run to a finish. The first prize was £10.

First semi-final—Mr Sloan's Sarah Brown (30) and Mr M'Ewan's Vanity (27).

Second semi-final—Mr Bain's Skylark (4½), Mr M'Donald's Cappie (22), and Mr Trainer's Burke Lass (25) a dead heat.

Third semi-final—Mr Frank's Maid of Erin (30) and Mr Jack's Bothwell Castle (29).

Final—1 Mr Frank's Maid of Erin, 2 Mr Sloan's Sarah Brown, 3 Mr Jack's Bothwell Castle. Betting—5 to 4 on Sarah Brown, 2 to 1 against Maid of Erin, 3 to 1 Cappie, 10 to 1 others. Won by a neck.

HAT TRICKSTERS AT TYNECASTLE, PITTODRIE, AND PARKHEAD.

HOW CELTIC SNUFFED OUT THE ACADEMICALS OF HAMILTON.

RANGERS FALLING BEHIND—A ROUSING FINISH AT FALKIRK—BROWNLIE IN THE EYE AT KIRKCALDY.

Partick Thistle and Hibs played at Firhill. An injury to Gardiner a few minutes from the start placed the Thistle in an awkward position. M'Mullan, however, by falling back to his accustomed position relieved the tension on the defence. The play of the forwards suffered, the visitors' defence easily accounting for the few ragged runs made by Thistle's depleted front line.

Neither side seemed to steady themselves, most of the runs being of a haphazard order, with some crude attempts at shooting. Hibs were the superior lot in front, and Ferguson's cleverness alone saved the Thistle. He seemed to be forced over the line on one occasion with the ball in his possession, but a free kick against Kilpatrick saved the position. With Gardiner's return the Thistle had a better share of the game, but incidentally his return was signalised by Hibs getting the lead. Fleming and Lennie, who all along had been Hibs' most prominent forwards, took the ball cleverly along, and Fleming being entrusted with the final touch drove hard for goal. Ferguson made a good attempt to save, but seemed to throw himself too soon, the ball passing over his head into the net. This point gave Hibs the necessary confidence, and further success looked like coming their way, but the home defence proved stubborn, and gave little or nothing away. Ferguson's exhibition was the particular bright spot in the home side display, and but for his cleverness Hibs would have crossed over with a bigger credit balance. Half-time—Partick, 0; Hibs, 1.

Partick's position in the second half was far from reassuring, Gardiner, with one leg useless, going outside left, and M'Mullan left half. The defence suffered little from the change, but the forwards, who all through had failed to strike a combined style of play, were placed in an unenviable position. N. Harris was blanketed by Paterson, Kerr had an easy passage against Branscombe and Gardiner, and found time to get in a few good shots at Ferguson, one of which struck the underside of the crossbar, and thence to the net. At no stage this half could Partick claim an advantage, and from some of the banter thrown at the players by the home supporters their display was being taken more in sorrow than in anger Hibs never relaxed their efforts to increase their already sufficient lead, and Kilpatrick, after Gordon had sent the ball forward, gave Ferguson no chance. It was a game which most of the Partick players will wish to forget, as seldom have the defence fought such an unequal fight. Whittle and Harris of the forwards alone showed a disposition to make progress, but against the Hibs' defence these two were powerless. The Hibs gave a fine display in the second half when they had the points in hand, Fleming and Lennie, and later Campbell, being grand. The home defence did everything in their power to retrieve their position, but without some support from their forwards their work was spoiled. Ferguson was unfortunate in being thrice beaten, but he saved many shots, which looked certainties all the way.

Hibs, 3; Partick Thistle, 0.

Partick Thistle—Ferguson; Law and Bulloch; Durnin, Gardiner, and J. Harris; Whittle, M'Tavish, N. Harris, M'Mullan, and Branscombe.

Hibs—M'Manus; Borthwick and Dornan; Kerr, Paterson, and Gordon; Lennie, Fleming, Kilpatrick, Muirhead, and Campbell.

CELTS GO SIX.

Hamilton Accies' parlour football did not pay at Celtic Park. The Accies made a bright start, and flattered with the first goal inside three minutes. M'Neill slung across a fine centre, after beating Brown, Shaw failed to get the leather, and Graham headed through for the first count.

Their lead was short-lived. M'Coll beat Hamilton for M'Atee's pass, and planked the ball in the net. Two goals in two minutes—quick scoring. For a period Jack was as good as his master. Celts had it for speed and penetrative power, while the Lanarkshire forwards showed clever combination, which, as a rule, fizzled out against the stonewall defence of M'Nair and Dodds.

Then the came Celts' grip of the game. Browning and M'Atee got over plenty of fine balls. M'Coll was always a trier, M'Menemy and Gallagher showed fine footwork, and with it all it was close on the interval before M'Coll scored his second goal. He picked up a right-wing centre, and, with a fine effort, beat Hamilton all ends up.

Celts had the goal lead at the turn over, and were well worth it. The Accies kept play at Celts' end for some time after resuming, but they seldom looked like scoring. Celts gave the other fellows a lesson in goal-getting. M'Coll got many presents from his wing men, and when he beat Robertson from M'Atee he went ahead for his team's and his own third goal.

Mac walked through the defence, and placed a "picture" to M'Coll, who had simply to bang it into the net. The next two goals were due the scorers. M'Menemy headed through from M'Atee, and Gallagher with his last kick in the game totalled six. The Lanrick lads were outpointed and outclassed.

For the Accies, Hamilton (the old Dumbarton goalie) did his part well. Robertson and Miller were a good pair of backs. M'Neil failed to keep up his early brilliance, and Nicholl was off form, as he never played up to M'Nair as he should. The inside men were good triers, with Graham the best of the lot. The Accies' outstanding man was M'Namee. He put in a power of work, and in attack and defence he was the black country goods.

The Celts all over were champion in form. Shaw safe, M'Nair the better back, Brown outstanding at half, and of a good front line M'Menemy was the bright star.

Celtic, 6; Hamilton Accies, 1.

Celtic—Shaw; M'Nair and Dodds; Wilson, M'Stay, and Brown; M'Atee, Gallagher, M'Coll, M'Menemy, and Browning.

Hamilton Academicals—Hamilton; Robertson and A. Miller; M'Lennan, M'Namee, and Paterson; M'Neil, Murphy, Graham, Kyle, and Nicholl.

AYR UNITED AT LAST.

It was in the second half of the game at Brockville Park that all the damage was done, and it was a rousing finish, Ayr getting home by the odd goal in three. Falkirk missed Orrock behind and M'Millan at left half, while the Directors of the United showed their wisdom in including Marshall at centre, for he was the mainspring of the attack in the second portion, and seemed to stand the hot pace with amazing calm. The first half was not productive of goals, but there was some good play shown. The ball was only once in the net, and the Bairns' effort went for nought, the point being counted off. The defensive work on both sidas was ahead of the attack.

The second-half display was a warm one. Falkirk resumed in a style which marked them out for favour, and it was only what they were due when Simpson scored after twenty-five minutes' play. It looked as if the Brockville side were to augment their score, but here entered Centre Marshall, who up till this stage had not been very prominent. R. Cringan swung over a beauty, and Marshall applied his dome to the ball and Stewart was beaten. Playing with great virility thereafter, the Ayr line went for the Falkirk defence for all they were worth, and Shankley was the master in a sort of scrimmage near Stewart, past whom he rushed the ball the next minute, and the Honest Men had won the points. In comparison with the Ayr five, Falkirk showed poorly. They were loose and disjointed in their movements. Gibbons is not an ideal centre, and he missed many fine opportunities. Harvie was a good lad for the Bairns, and Corporal Henderson was the best of the defence. The Ayr defenders were splendid, and at half W. Cringan was a hero.

Ayr United, 2; Falkirk, 1.

Falkirk—Stewart; Donaldson and Corpl. Henderson; Harvie A. Comrie, and M'Culloch; Simpson, Watson, Gibbon, Croal, and Currie.

Ayr United—Nisbet; Bell and Hay; Waddell, W. Cringan, and M'Lauchlan; R. Cringan, Crosbie, Marshall, Shankley, and Yuille.

QUEEN'S PARK FLATTERED.

One of the finest games ever put up between Queen's Park and Clyde was seen at Hampden Park. Clyde, if anything, had the pull so far as correct football was concerned, but their failure at goal was, as usual, their weak point Queen's, although more erratic in their methods, were dangerous to a degree when near Shingleton, and got their goals in their usual haphazard fashion. Clyde had Sergeant M'Andrew in his old position at centre-half.

Clyde's play in the first half was very convincing, and it looked like a red victory when they rattled on two goals, the first of which was obtained, after hammering at Queen's goal for a long spell, by Jackson from a hook centre by Morris off the goal line. Queen's replied strongly, but were unable to circumvent the sturdy defenders, and when Clyde added another goal through M'Gowan, from a picture cross from Shimmon it looked all up with the Queen's.

A change took place, however, and A. L. Morton, getting a long pass from M'Dermid, essayed a shot, which Shingleton cleared, but Aitken, getting possession, sent the ball back to "A. L.," who, lying unmarked, shot hard and sure for the net.

In the second period Clyde showed their first half superiority by keeping the Queen's well within their own half. This continued without almost a gallop by Queen's forwards for quite half an hour, but the Hampden defence shone in all departments, and refused to allow Clyde further success. It was nearly ten minutes from time ere Queen's had a look-in, and this was a runaway by A. L. Morton, who beat Cowan and forced Farrell to give a corner. This was well taken by the outside man, and the ball dropped to the foot of Cowan, who, without letting the ball touch the ground, shot far up into the net. Cowan had to be assisted off, having hurt his foot in equalising, but returned ere the close. The result flattered the Queen's to a great extent, as Clyde all over had at least three-fourths of the play, and their failure to win can only be put down to their inability to assert themselves in the goal area.

Queen's best were Richardson, Thorpe, Barry, Morton, and Cowan.

Clyde's best were Cowan, Farrell, M'Andrew, and all five forwards, with Jackson the star. Attendance 6000.

Queen's Park, 2; Clyde, 2.

Queen's Park—J. Richardson; P. Thorpe and J. Neilson; J. Paterson, J. G. Barry, and A. Ford; W. J. Aitken, A. Cowan, R. F. M'Dermid, D. Templeton, and A. L. Morton.

Clyde—Shingleton; Cowan and Farrell; Neave, Sergeant M'Andrew, and Forrest; Morris, Walker, M'Gowan, Jackson, and Shimmons.

YARNELL AGAIN.

Mercer's absence from the Tynecastle eleven meant a lot to the Hearts, military duties preventing the centre half's appearance, and for whom Conacher made a most indifferent substitute. Airdrie's Yarnell was in his element, and another hat-trick was recorded by him.

The game was only minutes old when got in his first shot, which was saved, he soon made amends, taking up a pass from Rankine and whipping in a drive, which beat Black all the way. to this Hearts had been badly fouled Watson, and a second offence from the source called forth the disapproval of spectators. Hearts, however, could little headway against the steady opp tion of Airdrie, for whom Comrie was placer and Kennedy the breaker-up. the latter came the movement which nell and Rankine followed up by a piece of combined work, the ball reach Paterson, who, unmarked, scored the goal.

Hilldon tried to improve matters for side, but he met with little suppo M'Donald and Watson circumventing endeavours to reach Bernard. A mis by Kennedy and a shot from Ross which lowed was the nearest approach to dan from the Hearts' side. The nimble Yarn was constantly on the alert for a possi opening, and but for a 'cute movement Black he would have improved his lea But the goal was merely delayed, as centre scored another fine point, which lowed on the heady work of Donaldson.

With a comfortable lead Airdrie were so prominent after the interval. Here D yer came largely into the picture with brace of shots which troubled Bernard a little, but score the Hearts could not Another breakaway by Airdrie saw Yarn round Kiernan and score another love goal, his third in the game. Advances Hearts brought out their only point, Hil don turning in a free kick rather smartly out of Bernard's reach. No further scori ensued. Airdrie were easily the superi side, their inside forwards, Anderson, Ya nell, and Donaldson, winning the game f them. Of the others Comrie, M'Donald and Paterson were best. Hearts miss Mercer badly. Ross, Kiernan, Nellies, a Denyer worked hard, but the others we only moderate.

Hearts, 1; Airdrieonians, 4.

Hearts—Black; Kiernan and M'Lean Nellies, Conachar, and Ross; Sharp M'Ewan, Hilsdon, Denyer, and Cartmell.

Airdrieonians—Bernard; M'Donald and Watson; Knox, Kennedy, and Comrie Rankine, Anderson, Yarnell, Donaldson, and Paterson.

DUNDEE DOWN.

In beating Dundee at Paisley St Mirren accomplished a feat which had proved beyond them for several seasons. They deserved to win, too, as they were during the greater part of the game the more assertive lot, and their play was a shade better than that of the visitors. The quality of play in the first half and a good portion of the second was remarkably clever. Dundee's soldier centre, as became such a persistent trier, had the first likely shot of the game, Hillcoat was ready for it, but delayed clearing, and almost paid the penalty. The ball was kicked out of his hands, but Marshall averted the danger. Turner rivalled the Dundee man for smartness, and twice tested Bower. The Saints continued to have the whip hand, but they were kept out consistently by the Dundee defence. Brown's scoring opportunities were as scarce as many other things these days. Dixon kept too close on his heels for the centre's comfort, with the result that he was not allowed to practise the art of shooting with much hope of success.

The brightest bit of play lasted during the first fifteen minutes of the second half. W. Brown began by beating several opponents and then driving for the net. Bower gave away a corner in saving, which was followed immediately by another. Higginbotham got possession, and passed forward to Lindsay, who scored from short range. The Saints were back in the vicinity of Bower at once. Lindsay, by a masterly bit of tackling, carried the ball forward. He was crowded out, but Turner met with success, Bower having no chance to stop his shot. The Saints played with fine vim at this stage, and should have increased their lead. Whether they tired or were content with a two-goal margin the fact remains that they slackened off very considerably, and with Dundee failing to find their real form play degenerated a good deal. There was an occasional spurt by both sides, but few dangerous efforts by either. St Mirren's best players were the backs, half-backs, and inside forwards, while Ferguson, Duffus, Herron, and Fisher were prominent for Dundee.

Result—St Mirren, 2; Dundee, 0.

St Mirren—Hillcoat; Marshall and Callaghan; W. Brown, Dickson, and Wall; Higginbotham, Pringle, Turner, Lindsay, and A. Brown.

Dundee—Bower; Ferguson and Burns; M'Intosh, Duffus, and Stirling; Herron, Fisher, Brown, Pearson, and Cargill.

MOTHERWELL MASTERED.

Motherwell put up a poor fight at Kilmarnock. They lost by three goals, and, but for the bad shooting of the Kilmarnock forwards, it might easily have been doubled. There were some lively passages at the start, during which the Motherwell goal ran two miraculous escapes, and Rundell had two excellent saves. Then the game developed into a tussle between the home forwards and the visitors' defence. The Kilmarnock players were clever in the outfield, but in front of goal their work lacked precision. Scoring chances were presented to them by a defence that was very unsteady, and they kicked badly—so badly that Stewart, of Motherwell, gave Kilmarnock their first goal by diverting a shot from Culley into the net. Kilmarnock, in the subsequent play, were always the better side, and should have crossed with a bigger lead.

In the second half the home side showed an improvement in shooting. Rutherford got the second goal. Near the close Smith headed a third. Motherwell have to thank their goalkeeper that the score against them was not greater. He, along with Gray, was the only Motherwell player who came out of the game with credit. Kilmarnock were surprisingly weak in finishing.

Kilmarnock, 3; Motherwell, 0.

Kilmarnock—Sinclair; Hamilton and Mitchell; Henderson, Goldie, and Mackie; Goldie, Smith, Culley, Rutherford, and M'Phail.

Motherwell—Rundell; Henderson and M'Skimming; M'Stay, Brown, and Stewart; Kelly, Gilloghley, Dunsmore, Gray, and Morgan.

HIBS DEFEAT PARTICK THISTLE AT FIRHILL.

Branscombe (Thistle), Paterson (Hibs), Kerr (Hibs), M'Mullan (Thistle), and Lennie (Hibs).

RANGERS FALL AT GREENOCK.

Rangers had the worst of the game against rton at Greenock, and got off easily, for ich they have to thank their goalkeeper d backs. Blair, Cairns, and Croot were ent from the Ibrox eleven, but capable stitutes were found. Eight thousand re present when the game began. The ening provided a sensation. Gourlay verly deceived the opposing defence, and, the first minute, Morton stood a goal to e good. It was a bright opening for the als, but, although they tried often, they iled to repeat the performance. Practilly all through the first half they pressed rd, and the Rangers had a lively time in ustrating the attack. In this work Logan layed no small part. Hempsey had many lls made upon him, and time and again e Greenock men were baffled by his smart earing. The Ibrox goalkeeper was capbly supported by Manderson and Pursell. he Rangers' left wing were troublesome, t the attack, generally speaking, was of feeble order, and M'Curdie accordingly d few opportunities to show his abilities. The crowd was treated to a much brighter play of football in the second half, when angers were seen to better advantage. he wing men had some flying runs down ld, but the attack lacked cohesion, and e shooting was only moderate. The spoilg tactics of the Greenock half-back line counted a great deal for this. M'Intyre d Wright were in splendid form, and eteran Morrison and Ormonde put in a rge amount of effective kicking. Each side d scoring chances, but they were not ken. Throughout the game Morton held eir lead, although, in play, they were ue for at least another goal.

M'Nab and Seymour were the best forards in view. The right winger was in his reliest form all through the game, and nt in some stinging shots. On the Ranrs' side Bowie and Scott Duncan were tive. Lawson was clever on the left wing. t the opposition proved too much for him.

Morton, 1; Rangers, 0.

Morton—M'Curdie; Morrison and Ormonde; M'Intyre, Wright, and M'Lean; M'Nab, Gourlay, Patterson, Stevenson, and Seymour.

Rangers—Hempsey; Manderson and Pursell; Riddell, Logan, and Martin; Panner Scott Duncan, Bowie, C. Duncan, Hendry, and Lawson.

A SCORCHER AT STARK'S PARK.

From start to finish the game between aith Rovers and Third Lanark at Stark's ark was a scorcher. Very early in the me Brownlie found himself in troubled aters, and only a goalkeeper of his ability nd experience could have saved Third anark from disaster. Abbott forced a rner. The kick, which was taken by Wiln, almost beat Brownlie, who dropped the ll on the goal line. Wilson tried again, t the Cathkin custodian frustrated all his tempts. Brownlie's successful work adied up the Third's defence, and Neish, Raith's goal, soon got his turn to show s powers. Bissett and Thomson led the thkin assault, but the Rovers' backs were great form, and drove back the attack. he sound defence of both teams was varied exciting raids by the front liners, Archld and Lindsay for the Rovers, and Thomn, M'Lean, and Bissett for Third Lanark, aking determined efforts to draw first ood. In one of Raith's raids Brownlie had e time of his life. The Rovers' front and d-line swarmed on his goal. The ball bbed in and out. The players got mixed worse than a Rugby scrum, and Brown was laid low with the ball on his arms. free kick against somebody or other on e Raith's side closing the exciting episode. his was decidedly the Rovers' half.

The second half was faster and quite as citing. Third Lanark played the long ssing game, which paid better than the ose game adopted by the Rovers, though e homesters took their full share of the ay. The Cathkin men were always the ore dangerous, and more than once the overs had a grand pair of backs to thank r saving them from disaster. Just when looked like being a "meatless day" issett did the trick for Third Lanark, acpting a fine centre from Thomson, and uding the ball into the net. This proved e only goal of the match. Brownlie, ackie, Hannah, Thomson, and Bissett were e heroes of the Cathkin side, while the st for Rovers were Neish, Robson, Muir, urrie, and Archibald.

Raith Rovers, 0; Third Lanark, 1.

Raith Rovers—Neish; Robson and Muir; attray, Forrest, and Currie; Archibald, ndsay, Abbot, Wilson, and Cobban.

Third Lanark—Brownlie; M'Cormack and ackie; Walker, Hannah, and R. Brown; issett, Weir, M'Lean, Wilkie, and Thomn.

THE DONS DROP.

Dumbarton were up North. They had ewart, of Hamilton Acas at inside right. erdeen were well represented, Colman ppearing in defence.

Aberdeen had to contend against a stiff nd, and after Anderson had got his initial ptism the Dons went ahead, and J. Wylie, cepting a pass from Mackay, scored for erdeen with a shot that gave Miller no ance, the ball going in off the crossbar. e centre was again well positioned, but is time he finished high.

Play was vigorous and exciting, with the ns coming more and more into the glare, d at length Dumbarton, through Cairney, w an opening following a mix-up in the rthern rear, and potted the equaliser. nderson had many brilliant clearances. His ple save brought down the house, but mbarton were well in the hunt for goals, d a second goal for Cairney was well due play when it came, Cairney letting fly on e run and deceiving the keeper. It was a eat half, full of incident. Anderson ared from Travers, and the ball came to d. The left half let blaze. It was neck nothing, but it proved a "kneck," as the ll found its billet, and Anderson was werless. Just to taper off the first fortye Aberdeen got a penalty, and Miller ed it, and the turn-over found the Sons 3-1.

The second portion was better contested. e Dons' forwards didn't impress, and the k of penetration was always discernible. om made the most of a breakaway for the estern side, as Cairney found himself well ced, and banged home the third goal. A eworthy feat the hat trick at Pittodrie. e subsequent play was fairly evenly ided, and Aberdeen counted for Miller being forced over the line with the ball. This finished the scoring, and the Sons can be written down as good winners. Best for Aberdeen—Anderson, Colman, Brewster, Walker, and the two Wylies. The Sons were all hard grafters, speedy, plucky, and clever, and Cairney gets the shake for his three goals and Reid for his great scoring effort.

Dumbarton, 4; Aberdeen, 2.

Aberdeen—Anderson; Colman and Mair; Calder, Brewster, and Robertson; Mackay, Paton, J. Wyllie, Walker, and Wylie.

Dumbarton — Miller; M'Grory and Semple; Travers, Raeside, and Reid; Ritchie, Stewart (Hamilton Acas), Cairney, M'Kim, and Thom.

STEVENSTON UNITED'S BIG BEATING.

Dumbarton Harp met Stevenston United at Dumbarton in a Western League game which had an important bearing on the championship. The game had a sensational opening. Duffy scored for the Harp in three minutes. Stevenston were unlucky to not equalise, M'Bride bringing off a splendid save from Fullerton, while Meldrum saved after M'Bride was beaten. Towards the interval Duffy struck the woodwork with the Ayrshire keeper help'ess. Harp 1 0 at the interval.

In the second half the Harp were the better side, and deserved the points. Brodie scored the second goal, and ten minutes later M'Callum waded through the defence and registered a third. It was followed by a fourth from Brodie. Best for the Harp—M'Bride, Dempster, M'Callum, Watson, and Brodie, and for the United—Hodge, Kelly, Stirling, Fullerton, Goldie, and Farrell. Harp, 4; Stevenston United, 0.

EQUAL AT ALEXANDRIA.

At Alexandria, Vale of Leven and Johnstone met in a Western League game. Marshall, of Renfrew Victoria, was at centre for the Vale. It was a hard game. M'Lelland, the visitors' keeper, had brilliant saves from Cameron and Anderson, while Irvine missed a good chance of giving Johnstone the lead.

In the second half Cameron headed a goal for the Vale, and ten minutes later Black equalised in fine style. A draw was what the game was worth. Robb, Bone, Brander, M'Rae, and Anderson, of the Vale, took the eye. M'Lelland, Kerr, Thomson, Steel, Black, and Irvine were prominent for the strangers. Vale of Leven, 1; Johnstone, 1.

RENTON'S DEFEAT AT HOME.

Renton had Clydebank at Tontine in a Dumbartonshire Cup tie. Renton introduced Miller, of Hamilton Academicals, at left back. In twelve minutes Bolger gave Clydebank the lead with a swift, low shot. A few minutes later Murphy scored a second, which Henderson should have prevented. Renton improved, but were up against a strong defence, M'Turk saving cleverly. Clydebank led by 2-0 at the interval.

It was a keenly-fought second half, in which Renton had slightly the pull, but Bolger scored a third goal for the visitors. Later Haddow got a point for Renton. M'Turk, Smith, Black, Taylor, Bolger, and M'Millan shone for the winners, and for Renton Riley, Miller, Dodds, and Henderson were best. Clydebank, 3; Repton, 1.

TIPS FOR SATURDAY.

Celtic has a stiff task. They play at Airdrie. They'll win Ayr United are at home to St Mirren. They'll win. Clyde will beat the Hearts at Shawfield.

Rangers travel to Falkirk. They'll lose. Dundee will defeat Dumbarton at Dens Park. Hamilton Academicals will be too good for Aberdeen at Douglas Park.

Hibs are at home to Queen's Park. It will be a draw. Morton will whip Raith Rovers at Greenock, and Partick Thistle should defeat Motherwell at Firhill. Third Lanark have Kilmarnock at Cathkin. They'll lose.

In the English League (Lancashire Section)—Blackburn Rovers to beat Bury; Blackpool to beat Oldham Athletic; Bolton Wanderers to lose to Burnley; Port Vale to beat Preston North End; Everton to lose to Liverpool; Manchester City to beat Stockport County; Rochdale and Manchester United to draw; Southport United to lose to Stoke.

Midland Section—Barnsley to beat Sheffield United; Bradford to beat Leeds City; Chesterfield Town to beat Hull City; Grimsby Town to draw with Lincoln City; Huddersfield Town to beat Bradford City.

London Combination—Fulham to beat Southampton; Portsmouth to lose to West Ham United; Tottenham to beat Clapton Orient; Crystal Palace to lose to the Arsenal; Millwall Athletic to beat Q.P. Rangers; Brentford and Luton Town to draw; Chelsea to beat Watford.

Your bowling will cost you more.

Jerry Reynolds is now in the "public" line.

Celts are again returned as top scorers for the day.

Celtic may be hailed as the winners of the League championship.

Bissett's goal at Stark's Park carried full points for the Thirds.

Two old "has been's" were at Celtic Park—Dan Doyle and Jimmy Quinn.

Will Celts manage their next two engagements, Airdrie and Aberdeen, away?

M'Coll's goal average goes up with four of the best against Alec Raisbeck's boys.

Gallagher had some marvellous efforts, but his last kick of the ball was his only goal.

Centre Yarnell, Airdrie's pot-shot, keeps on the target. He had three at Tynecastle.

Greenock Morton have beaten Rangers home and away this season. Two goals, four points.

Gourlay's first-minute goal put the Light Blues down at the tail of the bank. Jimmy got the shake.

The crowd at Celtic Park were very objectionable to the referee by their loud-voiced vapourings.

Both sets of supporters welcomed Sergt. Willie M'Andrew back to the field of play. He's at home with either!

On two successive visits to Glasgow Hibs have come well out of it with a draw at Cathkin and a win at Firhill.

Raith Rovers won at Cathkin 1-0 and Thirds won by the same score at Kirkcaldy. Honours even on the season's show.

£100 FOR FOOTBALL RESULTS.

Here is an opportunity of winning £100.

All you have to do is to forecast fifteen correct results. There is **NO NEED TO GIVE SCORES**

The competitor who gives the fifteen correct results gets the £100. In the event of more than one competitor being correct the prize will be divided.

If no competitor sends in a coupon giving the fifteen correct results a consolation prize of £10 will be awarded to the competitor who sends in the coupon with the largest number of correct results.

In the event of more than one competitor sending in a coupon with the same number of correct results the consolation prize will be divided.

On the accompanying form you will find a list of fifteen matches which are to be played on Saturday, March 17.

Strike out in ink the name of the club you think will lose. If in your opinion any game will end in a draw leave the name of both competing teams.

In the event of any of the matches not being played or being abandoned or postponed the prize of £100 will not be awarded, but the offer of the consolation prize will still hold.

Any reader may send in as many efforts as may be desired, but each forecast must be written on a separate form. These forms, together with any used from the "Weekly News," may be posted in one envelope.

Any entry form on which an alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified.

Each competitor must give his or her real address, and must write his or her signature and address in ink.

In all matters relating to this competition the Editor's decision is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED MARCH 17, 1917.

Blackpool	v. Oldham Ath.
Bolton Wan.	v. Burnley.
Everton	v. Liverpool.
Manchester C.	v. Stockport Co.
Rochdale	v. Manchester U.
Barnsley	v. Sheffield U.
Huddersfield	v. Bradford City.
Bradford	v. Leeds City.
Portsmouth	v. West Ham U.
Crystal Palace	v. Arsenal.
Brentford	v. Luton.
Airdrieonians	v. Celtic.
Dundee	v. Rangers.
Third Lanark	v. Kilmarnock.
Ayr United	v. St Mirren.

I enter this Competition in accordance with the printed conditions in "The Post Sunday Special," and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signature, ...

Address, ...

.....

.....

This competition is run in conjunction with the "Weekly News."

The Editor cannot accept responsibility for the loss or non-delivery of any entry form, and will not accept proof of postage as proof of receipt or delivery.

No correspondence can be entered into in connection with the competition.

The Editor reserves the right to disqualify any entry, but agrees not to disqualify any entry without good and sufficient reason.

Entries must be sent by post addressed to "£100 Results Editor," "The Post Sunday Special" Office, 158 Port-Dundas Road, Glasgow, and posted so that they reach us not later than the first post on Wednesday, March 14.

RESULT OF FOOTBALL CONTEST.

Matches Played Feb. 24.

No one forecasted fifteen correct results in this contest, but three readers submitted forms showing three errors each, and our Consolation Prize of £10 is divided amongst them. The winners' names are:—Alex. M. Johnston, 2 Union Street, Dundee; T. Elder, 60 West Smeaton Street, Kirkcaldy; and Catherine Powrie, 252 Brook Street, Broughty Ferry, Dundee.

BILLIARDS.

FALKINER (receives 2250),	18,000
INMAN, ...	13,684
REECE, ...	16,000
STEVENSON, ...	15,518

Did Partick let you down at the week-end?

Maryhill got a set-back at Govan. Good old Benburb.

Aberdeen are likely to stick at the foot, and win the wooden spoon.

Airdrie broke some "Herts" at Tynecastle. Celtic, please note.

"Jock" Wyllie had two goals at Pittodrie, yet his side went down.

Dumbarton have yet to be beaten at the far north. Well played, the "Sons."

Dundee were minus four of their regulars at Paisley, and dropped both points.

The First League tourney drew a "blank" in the matter of no-scoring draws.

Queen's didn't live up to expectations against the Clyde. "Peels" at two hits it off.

Dumbarton, Ayr United, Airdrie, Hibs, and Third Lanark were Saturday's away winners.

Yarnell's "plot" is numbered 31, and it's still growing. How often will he beat Shaw?

Alec Raisbeck has got well over his recent illness. He fraternised with old friends at Parkhead.

With the team wearing the Ibrox colours at Greenock they hadn't much chance of two points.

The clubs furthest north are the last three in the race—Dundee, Raith Rovers, and Aberdeen

It's a long lane that has no turning! Ayr United won at Brockville, and Manager Gemson's 'appy.

Cowan's equalising goal was well received at Hampden. The old Parkhead junior is a favourite with the "Select."

Motherwell lost at "Killie," and this was their first defeat since Celts beat them by a goal on January 6. A good run of eight weeks.

BLACKBURN ROVERS WASHED OUT AT STOCKPORT.

BAD DAY FOR MANCHESTER CLUBS.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY FALL BADLY AT HUDDERSFIELD.

ENGLISH LEAGUE.

LANCASHIRE SECTION.

Burnley, 4 Rochdale, 3

At Turf Moor, before 1500 spectators, on a treacherous ground, Burnley had much the better of the exchanges in the first half, but at the interval the sides were on level terms, Johnson and Hancock scoring for the home team, and Walker and Thomas for Rochdale. Hancock gave Burnley the lead seven minutes after the resumption, but Halligan equalised just on time. Burnley converted a penalty, awarded against King for handling.

Bury, 2 Southport C., 1

Before 1000 spectators, in disagreeable weather. The ground was on the heavy side. Rigsby scored after seventeen minutes, and Crossley equalised just before half-time. After the interval Bury did more of the attacking, but Wright in goal played a fine game, and saved some very dangerous shots. The game was fast, especially considering the heavy going. Crossley scored two minutes before the finish.

Liverpool, 3 Manch. City, 0

At Liverpool, in wet weather, before 15,000 spectators. Liverpool did best in the first half, and Lewis scored a fine goal. Manchester lost the assistance of Barnes, injured. Interval:—Liverpool, 1; Manchester City, 0. On resuming the homesters went off with a burst, and Bamber added another goal. Liverpool kept up the pressure, and after a lengthy attack on the City goal Madworth scoged a third.

Ma'chester U., 0 Everton, 2

Only 3000 spectators braved the rain, and the ground was sloppy. United introduced two new players in Barnett (Stockport County) and Tatham (Portsmouth). The first half produced no score, though the visitors had most of the play. The second half was seventeen minutes old when Silcock blundered, and Jeffreys scored for Everton. Eight minutes from the end Gault added with a splendid goal.

Oldham A., 3 Port Vale, 0

The visitors were without Collins, Groves, and Needham, and had to borrow Butterworth from Oldham to complete their team. Port Vale had much the better of the play in the first half, yet they were three goals down at the interval, Aldred, Thompson, and Gee scoring for Oldham. Vale's defence were hopeless under pressure, whereas their forwards did everything but score. The second half was more tamely fought, Matthews making several grand saves.

Pres. N.E., 1 Bolton W., 2

In bitterly cold weather, before 2000 spectators. North End opened well, but later were overplayed, and Geddes scored cleverly by a header, a goal by which the Wanderers led at the interval. Afterwards North End were stronger, and subsequent to a brilliant save by both keepers Edmondson equalised. The game was poor, if keen, and a mistake by Taylor gave Pickup a goal by which the Wanderers luckily won.

Stockport C., 7 B'burn Rov., 1

At Stockport, before 3000 spectators. Stockport at once repelled an attack from the Blackburn left, and three minutes from the start Rodgers opened the score for Stockport. Rodgers again got well placed, but his shot struck a Blackburn player and rebounded. Duckworth scored for Blackburn, and immediately afterwards Rodgers scored for Stockport. Interval—Stocport, 2; Blackburn, 1. Nuttall, Rodgers, Fayers (twice), and Kenyon scored for Stockport, who won handsomely.

Stoke, 6 Blackpool, 0

In wet weather, before 3000 spectators. Stoke played Maddocks for Turner, and Blackpool had Mossmrop and Fazackerley. Stoke were the better team in the first half, Whittingham scoring two goals. Howell scored a third after the restart, Herbert a fourth, Whittingham a fifth, and Harrison notched a sixth goal. Maddocks, who is only a young player, put up a remarkable exhibition. Allman was also great at back. Parker a clever half-back, and Bridgett dangerous at forward. Blackpool were completely outclassed.

MIDLAND SECTION.

Bradford C., 1 Barnsley, 1

At Valley parade, before 2000 spectators. The ground was hard and slippery, and the players operated with difficulty. Bradford City were the more aggressive, but a soft goal by Kay gave the visitors the lead. Early in the second half Mallons, who had had little to do, allowed the ball to roll between his hands and legs. After a number of desperate assaults, R. Wild equalised, and two other shots struck the woodwork.

Ch'st'rfie'd T., 3 Lincoln C., 3

This return match was played in misty weather, before 1500 spectators, on a slush-covered ground. Lincoln were minus Reid, Ward, and E. Gerton, and Chesterfield Revill and Palmer. A brilliant solo effort culminated in Barrell scoring, and next minute Moore equalised, he giving Chesterfield the lead thirteen minutes later. In the second half Goodwin increased it, and Manning scored twice for Lincoln.

Grimsby T., 2 Hull City, 3

In fine weather, before 2000 spectators. In a fast and interesting game, Hendry was well tested early on, but Lieutenant Osborne scored for Hull after fifteen minutes, and again after thirty-five minutes. Grimsby were mostly defending up to the interval, Hull deserving the lead. In the closing stages Colebrook opened Grimsby's score, and Young equalised with a penalty, but Lieutenant Osborne scored again towards the end of a hard-fought game.

Hud'ersfield, 3 Sheffield W., 0

At Huddersfield, in foggy weather and on a frozen ground, before 1000 spectators. After ten minutes Mann centred perfectly, and Elliott gave the home side the lead. There was no further scoring before the interval. Early in the second half Harrop missed with a penalty kick. Half way through Wooding added a second goal for Huddersfield from a corner by Mann, the defenders apparently thinking the ball would drop behind. Mann added a third from a pass by Elliott

Leicester F., 1 Notts Forest, 1

At Leicester, before 500 spectators, in wretched weather. Fosse started with only nine men, but the game was fairly even. After ten minutes Price opened the scoring for Fosse. Forest strove hard to equalise without success. Resuming, the Forest played a stronger game, and in twelve minutes Godfred scored for them from a pass by Timmins. Play alternated afterwards, Forest holding a slight advantage.

Notts C., 1 Birmingham, 1

The slippery condition of the ground made play difficult, the match being attended, in wet weather, by 2000. Woods (Norwich City) made his debut for Notts, the visiting eleven including Foxall, Bell, and Newman for M'Clure, Duncan, and Edwards. The opening exchanges favoured Birmingham, with Bell and Jephcott conspicuous, but Notts led at the interval by one goal to nil, Cantrell scoring from Scrimshaw's pass. Notts maintained a strong pressure after resumption. Best going close for Birmingham, and Whitehouse equalising.

Rother. C., 2 adford . 1

On heavy ground, and before 3000 spectators. There were absentees on both sides, the most notable being Hibbert, of Rotherham. The home team had considerably the better of play up to the interval, but the Bradford defence was excellent, the only goal being scored by Lee eight minutes after the interval. Robinson equalised, and Reed put Rotherham in front again. The home team had the better of play up to the finish.

Sheffield U., 2 Leeds City, 2

On snow-covered ground, at Bramall Lane, before 6000 people. Each team was very strong. Nothing was scored in the opening half, Hampson's skill in goal saving the City from disaster. In the second half Price scored beautifully for the City, Peart adding a second from a free kick, and Simmons responding for the United. Gillespie equalised with fourteen minutes remaining, but a tremendous finish brought no further success to either side.

TIPS FOR COLWALL PARK.

BY THE COLONEL.

Next Wednesday finds us at Colwall Park, near Malvern, for a couple of days' sport, under pleasant conditions.

The programme, although not ambitious, is still full of interest, and this meeting always has a holiday flavour about it.

The Ledbury Hurdle opens the ball, and I believe that Glatz will prove the winner, while Picton Lad and Peterloo are both likely to run well.

In the Stewards' Hurdle I note Dabber, Carol Singer, First Smoke, and Edwin's Belle as animals well in.

The Colwall Park Hurdle sees me give Pageant or Foolish Fancy as my first choice, while Siberian and Irish Recruit should run well in this event. For the Barton Court 'Chase Hartstown with a run seems to have a walk-over, but in his absence Fashion, United, and Michigan would come into the reckoning. For the Herefordshire 'Chase I take Sweet Tipperary to win, expecting Sanday's selected and Phidias to get places. The British Camp 'Chase goes to Noah, who has most to fear from Eager Simon and Wavylace.

On Thursday, in the Newent Hurdle, Dublin Bay or Tremolite will just about win. The Four-Year-Old Hurdle goes to Appleton, in whose absence Tiberian and Pageant would fight out the finish. For the Moderate Hurdle Eager Simon or Ednam's Belle will be my choice.

For the Malvern 'Chase Top Hole has most to fear from Copper Hill and Lamentable.

The Bosbury 'Chase to me looks good for Sabaria, who has most to fear from Usury and Nemo, while the Mathon 'Chase goes to Scarlet Button, who also looks particularly good, with Billy Bossy as the danger.

COLWALL PARK—Wednesday, March 14.

12.45.—Glatz, nap; Picton Lad next best.
1.15.—Dabber, nap; Carol Singer next best.
2.0.—Pageant, nap; Foolish Fancy next best.
2.30.—Hartstown, nap; Fashion next best.
3.0.—Sweet Tipperary, nap; Sanday's selected next best.
3.25.—Noah, nap; Eager Simon next best.

Thursday, March 15.

12.45.—Dublin Bay, nap; Tremolite next best.
1.15.—Appleton, nap; Tiberian next best.
2.0.—Eager Simon, nap; Edman's Belle next best.
2.30.—Top Hole, nap; Copper Hill next best.
3.0—Sabaria, nap; Usury next best.
3.25.—Scarlet Button, nap; Billy Bossy next best.

Brown, ex-Raith Rovers goalie, is now a navyman.

M'Namee was "Hamilton's" star turn at Celtic Park.

What price Morton finishing runners-up in the League tourney?

Celts' six goals against the Accies is their biggest score of the season.

Ayr United had a reputation to live up to at Falkirk, and they did it, too.

Partick Thistle have not won a match since they beat Falkirk on 13th January Very "Harass"-ing!

The Post Sunday Special

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 1917.

GALLANT EDINBURGH DOCTOR.

Central Press.

Captain Alaister Fraser Lee, M.D., R.A.M.C., of Edinburgh, who has been awarded the Military Cross for devotion to duty in attending to a very large number of wounded under heavy and continuous shell fire. He was thrown down and wounded by the explosion of a shell, but continued to perform his duties in the most gallant manner.

A HAPPY GROUP AT DUNDEE WAR HOSPITAL.

The wounded soldiers at the Eastern Hospital, Dundee, had a very happy time when they were entertained by a number of theatrical ladies and gentlemen, the majority of whom were from the "Nights of Gladness" Company. On the extreme left is Mr Tom Shenton, the manager of the company, and a talented artiste himself, and on the extreme right is Mr J. H. Gaddon, the manager of the King's Theatre, Dundee. Immediately above him is Mr Uty Rowlands, leading comedian, and on the right in the front row are the two principal ladies, Miss Maude Esmond and Miss Winnie Collins. Above Mr Shenton are Mr Tom Kelso, comedian, and Mr J. Lancaster, stage manager of the King's Theatre. In the second row (standing) is Miss Marie Elliott, the well-known Dundee comedienne and dancer.

PEER'S DAUGHTER AS MATRON.

No one has taken a deeper interest in the welfare of the wounded than the Hon. Mrs C. R. Burn, wife of Col. Burn, M.P., and daughter of Lord Leith of Fyvie, who has taken charge of her Torquay hospital for officers, thus becoming her own matron. She is doing splendid work, and the patients are never tired of praising her unceasing efforts on their behalf.

LADY'S UNIQUE WAR WORK

C.N.

Miss Joyce, a Cornish lady, has taken the place of the manager of the tin mine near Truro, who is on service. She is stated to be the only mine manageress in the world, and in addition to her work above ground goes down the mine as well. She is always accompanied by Pat, her terrier.

READY FOR A JOB.

This Scottish laddie is ready for a job. He is prepared to do anything in the way of gardening, and is quite confident that he can prove a handy lad as a National Service Volunteer.

FAIR BUT FALSE.

C.N.

The Coldstream Guards can boast of having in their ranks two of the smartest female impersonators in the British Army. It is difficult to imagine that the above are really two of our fighting men, especially "the principal girl" (the two have been the leading players in a pantomime at the back of the front), which is portrayed by Private Spiatt.

THE HIGHLAND LINE DIRECTORATE.

Sir Hector Munro, Bart. of Foulis, who in all probability will succeed the late Duke of Atholl on the Directorate of the Highland Railway Company. His appointment on the Directorate would be popular throughout the Highlands.

CRIPPLED CHILDREN RESPOND TO THEIR COUNTRY'S CALL.

Although these children are cripples they are determined to help along the National Service, and are most enthusiastic about it, too, as can be seen from the vigorous way they are waving their spades and their gardening implements. They belong to John Ruskin's School, of West Newington, and they are to raise vegetables on the plot of ground at the side of the school.

60—AND FOUGHT FOR TWO YEARS.

Signaller J. M'Conchie, a New Zealander, who is at present visiting his sister, Mrs Gall, Trafford Place, Park Street, Motherwell, is 60 years of age, and has served at the front for two years. He has been badly gassed.

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